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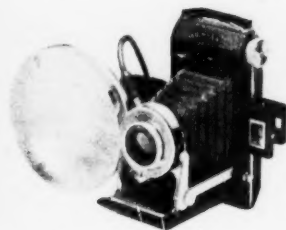
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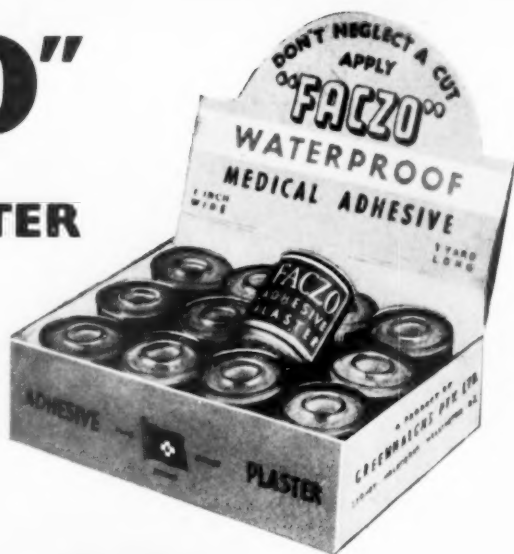
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CONTENTS

OCTOBER, 1952

	Page
● Editorial	915
● The Month	916
● Science Section	918
● Applied Pharmaceutics	925
● The Language of Chemistry	926
● Pharmaceutical Benefits Act— Amending Bill	927
Alterations to the List	931
● The Recording of Prescriptions	930
● The Apothecary in Literature	932
● Women Pharmacists' Page	934
● The Social Sciences (Fellowship Lectures in South Australia), Article No. 23	938
● Non-Proprietary Names	941
● Photographic Section	942
● What About Competition	945
● Readers' Views	946
● Legal	946
● Overseas News	949
● Market Report	958
● Trade Notes	958
● Student Activities	962
● Hospital Position Discussed in Parliament	962
● Guide to New Prescription Proprietaries .. Facing pages 962 and	963
● News and Reports—	
South Australia	964
Western Australia	972
Tasmania	975
New Zealand	979
New South Wales	984
Victoria	994
Queensland	1007

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Preliminary Examination—November 19-24.

Intermediate Examination—November 11-20.

Final Examination—November 24-December 4.

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INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

	Page		Page
Abbott Laboratories (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.	948	Johnson & Johnson Pty. Ltd.	854-957-966
Amalgamated Dental Co. Ltd.	19	Johnson's of Hendon Ltd.	639
Amalgamated Insurance Ltd.	30	Joubert & Joubert Pty. Ltd.	31
Anglo-Swiss Drug Co. Pty. Ltd.	992-1004	Karitane Products Society Ltd.	17
Arnold & Co. Pty. Ltd.	30	Kodak (A'asia) Pty. Ltd.	Cover 1
Arnold Bros.	1007	Langdon & Co. Pty. Ltd.	23
"Australasian Journal of Pharmacy"	29	H. J.	23
Ayrton, Saunders & Co. Ltd.	13	Lasky & Co. P. G.	1000
Barker & Son Ltd. Robert	25	Lawrence & Co. Ltd. Alfd.	1003
Bayer Pharma Pty. Ltd.	977	Lazarus, H.	1001
Beckers Pty. Ltd.	984	Mauri Bros. & Thomson Ltd.	23
Bleakley Photographic Pty. Ltd.	970	May & Baker (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.	973
Branman & Sons Ltd. S.	18	Merck (North America) Inc.	12
Bray & Holliday Pty. Ltd.	10	Middleton, M. R.	997
British Chemicals and Biologicals (Pty.) Ltd.	9	Muir & Neil Pty. Ltd.	936
British Drug Houses (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. The	969	National Brush Co. (Aust.) Ltd.	986
British Medical Laboratories Pty. Ltd.	944	Nicholas Pty. Ltd.	16
Burroughs Wellcome & Co. (Aust.) Ltd.	Cover 4	Official Announcements	2
Callose & Sons Pty. Ltd. B	969	Organon Laboratories Ltd.	974
Carnegie Chemicals (Wellwyn) Ltd.	982	Ortho Pharmaceutical Co.	34
Chemco (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.	993	Paisley Distributors	20
Chemists' Account Service	985	Parke, Davis & Co.	Cover 3
Chesebrough Manuf. Co. Cons'd	947	Pfizer & Co. (Inc.), Chas.	11
Classified Advertisements	1012	Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd.	25
Clinton-Williams Pty. Ltd.	Supplement v	Pharmaceutical Press, The	7
Coates & Cooper Ltd.	22	Potter & Birks Pty. Ltd.	990
Colgate — Palmolive Pty. Ltd.	987-1004	Ranleigh Ware Ltd.	982
Cowdroy Ltd. H. M.	998	Ransom & Son Ltd. Wm.	15
Crown White Coats Pty. Ltd.	Supplement iv	Reckitt & Colman (Aust.) Ltd.	8
David D. Bull Laboratories	998	Rendell Ltd. W. J.	28
Delany & Co., William	3	Rickard Medical Products Pty. Ltd.	1006
De Witt & Co. (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.	14	Rocke Tompsett & Co. Ltd.	935
Drug Houses of Australia Ltd.	951-1009	Royco (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.	1002
Druggist Sundries Co.	992	Saunders & Co. Pty. Ltd.	30
Edinburgh Laboratories	982	A.	30
Evans Medical Supplies Ltd.	981	Selby & Co. Pty. Ltd. H. B.	25
Fassett & Johnson Ltd.	27	Sigma Co. Ltd.	Supplement i
Faulding & Co. Ltd. F. H.	978	Sleigh Ltd. H.	991
Felton, Grimwade & Bickford Ltd.	4	Taylor Elliott Pty. Ltd.	4
Figaro Chemical Products	985	Toppin & Sons Pty. Ltd.	R. D.
Glaxo Laboratories (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.	Supplement vi	Trade Press Pty. Ltd.	30
Goya Ltd.	943	U-Text Manf. Co.	36
G.P. Pty. Ltd.	1005	Vincent Chemical Co. Pty. Ltd.	940
Greenhalgh's Pty. Ltd.	Cover 2-29	Warner & Co. Pty. Ltd.	6
Green Medical Distributors Pty. Ltd. B. M.	1006	Wm. R.	6
Gregory Steel Products Pty. Ltd.	25	Washington Chemical Co. Ltd.	19
Hillcastle Pty. Ltd.	985	Wholesale Drug Co. Ltd.	988
Imperial Chemical Industries of A. & N.Z. Ltd.	8	Witzig & Co. Pty. Ltd. P. 1007	31
Ingram & Son Ltd. J. G.	3	Wright Ltd.	31
		Wyeth, John, & Bro. Inc.	Supplement ii
		York & Co. Pty. Ltd. H.	978
		Zeal Ltd. G. H.	20



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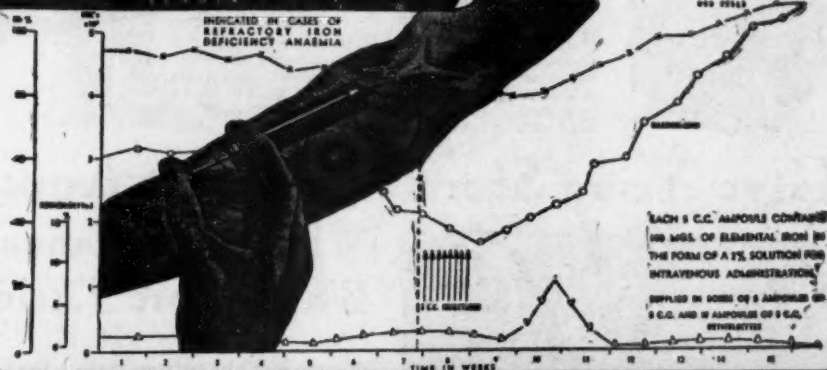
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1. J. Exper. Med., 50, (1929), 227
2. J. Path. Bact., 33, (1930), 1045
3. J. Exper. Med., 35, (1947), 77
4. Bact. Rev., 6, (1942), 197
5. J. Pediat., 30, (1947), 645
6. J. Pediat., 34, (1949), 559
7. Lancet, 2, (1949), 505

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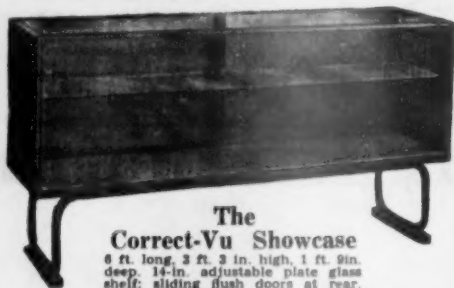
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5. **Increased Destruction** { e.g., achlorhydria, therapy involving arsenicals, sulphonamides, alkalis, etc.
6. **Increased Excretion** { e.g., polyuria due to various causes, lactation, therapy involving excessive fluid intake, etc.

(1) Jolliffe, N.: J.A.M.A. 122, 299 (1943).
(2) Leitner, Z. A.: B.M.J. 1, 917 (1948).



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Editorial

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October 30, 1952

A JOURNEY FOR PHARMACY

A Guest Editorial by Mr. W. R. Cutler, President of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand, following a recent visit to U.S.A., the U.K., France and Switzerland.

In retrospect, a journey assumes different proportions, presents other perspectives, and is a completely revisualised version of the same odyssey that has confronted the voyageur in its prospect. Moreover, the traveller has been enabled to assimilate in other countries a tolerance for their usages and established customs, and to assess their work and appreciation in the locale in which they are developed and practised.

Whatever the mission, the emissary embarks steeped in his own local tradition and training, a background, which of necessity must colour his immediate viewpoint, and render him liable to criticise before he is qualified to properly assess, and before mature consideration bends him from that "too analytical scrutiny."

What transient visitor of any quality is competent to offer criticism or pass judgment on the habits, the training, and psychology of his hosts? Indeed, any analysis of a critical nature would merit the title of impertinence, and enjoin curtailment of subsequent hospitality. Therefore, let this journey be a survey, full of appreciation of the attention, welcome and assistance received in the countries that gained his attention, and in which, no hint or suggestion of criticism may be allowed to appear.

Basically, pharmacists the world over have the same fundamentals, are invested with equivalent and suitable training, and serve the needs of humanity with similar sympathy and temperament.

Possibly, the outward and visible facade of the pharmaceutical temple may differ in varying climes, but one found the same motives, the same impetus, and, above all, the inspiration to lift the training ever upward, and so place the profession of pharmacy in a yet higher plane in the social structure.

In pursuing an inquiry into pharmaceutical education in the four countries entered, but not encompassed, time caused a necessary limit to the extent of investigation. A modest assessment was accomplished, and a probe of primary and secondary education was essayed, with some measure of success, as it was thought that a knowledge of earlier training could offer a keener appraisement of the relative values of tertiary education.

It is of interest to note that the contemporary ages of schooling in the three stages of training offer very little variety, and that the age of admission for tertiary training approximates that in Australia. This statement applies also to the age of commencement at school for primary instruction. The venue of pharmaceutical education varies according to the requirements of licensure and population of the country, whilst the length of time for academic training also offers some difference. None of these points, however, offer extremes of variety. In America, pharmaceutical training is carried out in Universities or colleges attached by

charter to Universities; in the United Kingdom, in Universities and certain technical colleges; in France, Universities and technical colleges of high grading, and in Switzerland training is done as in France. The four countries mentioned have an academic course approximating to four years, compared with our standards, and all students are matriculates before being permitted to enter their pharmaceutical training.

In Australia, the principle of concurrent apprenticeship or pupilage is under very close examination, and a subject of very strong and differing opinions. It will therefore be of intense interest to all concerned in this subject to learn that this type of training has been, or is in the process of, being abandoned in the four countries visited, and that inquiry elicited the information that most European countries have now eliminated this method of training.

As this survey cannot include comment in any form, the matter is quoted merely to arouse interest and to invite reflection. It will possibly also engender the thought that the leaders in pharmacy in the countries visited—some of whom could be justifiably nominated as world leaders in the science—have thought fit to eliminate this older form of tutelage and replace it with methods which they, by mature investigation and judgment, consider to be essential to stabilise the pharmaceutical profession.

Due inquiry was made into the legislation governing the practice of pharmacy in the countries visited, and a fairly comprehensive picture from a forensic angle was obtained. Once again, certain common principles were observed in all the licensure examined, but racial and domestic requirements in the different nations entail essential variety of administration, which gives the observer a keener interest, also in some cases induces some bewilderment.

It was a privilege to visit pharmaceutical establishments, retail and wholesale, hospital and laboratory. To view and be conducted over these, some of which bear world-famous names, was an exceedingly interesting experience. Once again, in any assessment, due thought was given to the needs of the respective nation.

It is hoped that more complete details of matters mentioned in this sketchy survey will eventually be presented, but, without wishing to contribute any definite statement, the observer was impressed by (1) the high standard and progress that pharmaceutical education has made in the United Kingdom; (2) the completeness (if this is the appropriate term) of pharmaceutical legislation in France; (3) the overwhelming kindness, courtesy and hospitality that was so freely given by all, to the voyageur, whose great honour it was to represent Australia.

THE MONTH

THIS MONTH'S GUEST EDITORIAL

The Guest Editorial this month is from the pen of Mr. W. R. Cutler, President of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand, who has returned from a lightning tour, which took him around the world.

On August 14 Mr. Cutler left Australia; on October 17 he was at the opening of the Centennial Convention of the American Pharmaceutical Association, in Philadelphia, U.S.A., where he and Mr. R. C. Rutter — whose sudden and regrettable death occurred shortly afterwards — ably represented Australian pharmacy.

After 3½ weeks in U.S.A. Mr. Cutler flew to England, and made very brief visits to France and Switzerland. In all countries he made intensive enquiries into pharmaceutical conditions, and has returned home with a vast amount of detailed information, which will be of very great interest.

We hope, in the near future, to have for publication reports on some of Mr. Cutler's experiences abroad and the result of his investigations.

REGISTRATION OF ALIENS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

A Bill to provide for recognition of qualifications of pharmaceutical chemists registered outside of Australia was introduced in the South Australian Legislative Council on October 20.

The Chief Secretary, Mr. McKewin, in introducing the Bill, referred to a resolution of the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies and the Pharmaceutical Association passed at the Brisbane Conference, and said that the intention of the Bill was that each application for registration should be dealt with according to its merits. Under the Bill the Board would be empowered to register a person with foreign qualifications or to grant a concession if it were shown that the applicant had undergone an examination in English and would undertake such further training as the Board considered necessary, and pass examinations which might be specified.

At present migrants going to South Australia without British qualifications could not be registered.

The debate on the Second Reading of the Bill was adjourned.

CORTISONE RESTRICTION MODIFIED

We are advised that the Royal Australasian College of Physicians has recommended to the Department of Health that consideration be given to some measure of decontrol of Ophthalmic preparations of Cortisone so as to allow members of the Ophthalmological Society of Victoria to obtain Cortisone drops and ointment on their prescriptions for the treatment of patients under their care. The Department has advised that wholesale drug houses may now release ophthalmic cortisone

preparations on the prescription of a recognised eye specialist without reference to the Deputy Director of Health. It is understood that wholesale houses are supplied with a list of recognised eye specialists, but that this cannot be published.

The advice received indicates that applications for prescriptions for cortisone from medical practitioners who are not eye specialists must not be dispensed by chemists, but must be referred to the Deputy Director of Health in the State concerned.

PHARMACY NEWS BULLETIN

The Pharmacy News Bulletin, No. 11, published on October 27 (edited by Keith Attiwill, Federal Director of Pharmaceutical Public Relations) is packed with useful information and advice to chemists on the subject of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act and the Pensioners' Medical Service. The Bulletin, which opens with a message from the Federal President, is presented in the form of questions and answers. Most of the knotty questions of procedure are answered lucidly and concisely.

The Secretariat is to be congratulated on a very useful publication.

NEW ZEALAND WITHDRAWS FROM PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION

The Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand has announced the withdrawal of New Zealand.

The association of the Dominion with the Commonwealth through the Association over the years has been a completely happy one, and the exchange of views and information has been mutually beneficial.

Since 1936, however, development has not been on parallel lines. The National Medical Services in New Zealand, introduced ahead of the Australian system, brought about considerable change. New Zealand, under this scheme, adopted its own formulary, so that the use of and demand for the A.P.F. was not so great as in earlier days.

The licensing of pharmacies in New Zealand presented pharmacy in New Zealand with different conditions and problems. The establishment of the very excellent New Zealand Journal of Pharmacy provided New Zealand chemists with an official Journal of their own, which provided news of Dominion happenings more comprehensive perhaps, and certainly earlier, than was possible when "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy" was the only official Journal circulated in the Dominion.

Australian pharmacists may remember with pleasure the visits of New Zealand representatives to meetings of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand, and in earlier days the holding of meetings of the Association in New Zealand.

The severing of ties such as this naturally brings regret, but in no way lessens the amity and co-operation between the two countries.

AMENDING PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS ACT

The text of a bill to amend the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act introduced in the Federal Parliament this month, and printed in this issue of the Journal, makes provision for the establishment of Disciplinary Committees of doctors and chemists to deal with members of the respective professions who transgress the law in relation to their obligations under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act. The Bill also confers immunity from civil damages arising from the exercise of their statutory duties on the members of these committees.

It is regrettable that legislation must provide penalties, controls and disciplines, but these are very necessary. Without restraint the unscrupulous minority in any calling will stoop to practises which unfortunately besmirch the names of their more honourable brethren.

Mr. Eric Scott, Federal President of the Guild, said very truly in the course of a statement published in the press this month: "An overwhelming majority of our 3000 retail chemists maintain a high ethical standard. They view with the utmost contempt the actions of a few who seem ready to debase their standards for unlawful gain. Under the free drugs scheme new temptations and new responsibilities challenge the pharmaceutical and medical professions to give of their best and keep their ranks clean."

According to press reports the General Secretary of the British Medical Association, Dr. J. G. Hunter, stated that the British Medical Association had suggested amendments to the Minister of Health, and was "in full accord with them." Their purpose was to achieve a general supervision of the working of the scheme and to prevent abuses.

THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE GUILD MEETS

The Federal Council of the Guild held its annual meeting in Melbourne, from October 27 to 30, and it was notable for the fact that every State President in Australia was present.

We have no reports available at this early stage for publication.

Problems of such importance in the pharmaceutical field arise with such frequency nowadays that the agenda for the Federal Council meetings always contains items of great significance.

At the meeting which has just concluded discussion took place on the Pharmaceutical Benefits and Pensioners' Medical Benefits Schemes, Pricing, Guild Merchandising, Public Relations Secretariat, the proposed building for Guild Headquarters, etc.

We offer our congratulations to Mr. Eric Scott, who was re-elected Federal President; to Mr. G. H. Dal-

limore, on his election as Federal Vice-President; and Mr. Orion C. V. Leggo, who has again been elected Federal Treasurer of the Guild.

BRITAIN CONSIDERS REGISTRATION OF ASSISTANTS

The Pharmaceutical Journal for September 20 reports that the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society presented to a meeting of branch representatives, held at Nottingham on July 28, a report on assistants in pharmacy.

This report, which was published in an earlier issue of the P.J., points out that the present position of assistants to pharmacists in Great Britain is that there is no uniform and recognised standard of competence, and that they fall generally into several classes; that the employment of assistants to pharmacists is acknowledged by law and custom, and the Council does not regard it as necessary to argue the general case for their employment.

The Council's view that the needs of the situation can best be met by a class of trained and examined assistants for general purposes is then stated, and the observation is made that in the past the best type of assistant has been the one who has set out with the intention of qualifying.

The report quite logically suggests that, as the work of assistants is essentially practical, their training and examination should be similarly based, and follows: "The Society should assume the responsibility for the establishment of conditions which will ensure that the training and examination are adapted to the purpose for which assistants are employed."

The report concludes with a statement of opinion that the regulation of the conditions under which assistants are employed, as outlined in the report, would improve the status of pharmacy, make for more efficient working, help the pharmacist, and protect pharmaceutical interests. This report did not find unanimous support at the branch representatives' meeting.

Referring to criticism of the report at the branch representatives' meeting, "The Pharmaceutical Journal" states that, although the President asked those who

were critical of the proposals to address themselves to the arguments in the report, there was little advanced from that side other than assertions that the proposals were a danger to the position of pharmacists.

One of the dangers we see and of which we have had examples in this country is the possibility of groups who are partially trained and have received statutory recognition successfully pressing claims for full registration, the result of which could be detrimental, not only to pharmacy, but to the public generally.

P.D.L. WARNING No. 14.

IS IT REALLY CHEAP?

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SCIENCE SECTION



EDITED BY A. T. S. SISSONS, B.Sc. F.P.S.

Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science

Sydney Meeting—Liversidge Lecture, 1952

"Recent Developments in the Study of the Chemistry of Australian Plant Products"

By J. R. Price, M.Sc., D.Phil.

Principal Research Officer, Division of Industrial Chemistry, C.S.I.R.O., Fishermen's Bend, Melbourne. (Abstract.)

For the past 50 years, Australian plant chemistry has been dominated by the study of essential oils, and interest in them is still maintained. One result of this domination is a fine record of achievement in terpene chemistry, but another, inevitably, is that remarkably little has been accomplished with other classes of plant products. However, this situation is gradually changing and today Australian plant chemistry rests on a broader basis than at any time in the past, cellulose, lignin, tannins, waxes, colouring matters, triterpenes, steroids, alkaloids, coumarins, cyclitols, lignanes, as well as essential oils, all being actively investigated. To illustrate the type of work in progress, examples from two of the many fields were discussed; firstly, the academic or long-range examination of plant constituents with special reference to alkaloids and, secondly, representing more urgent, short-term work, the study of stock poison plants.

I. Alkaloid Investigations.

The past few years have seen a steadily-increasing volume of work on alkaloids which originated during World War II from an effort to replace certain vital imported drugs from local sources. Some old problems have been solved; White and his colleagues in Western Australia have cleared up uncertainty as to whether the aboriginal narcotic "pituri" contains nicotine or nornicotine by showing that both alkaloids are usually present — and many new alkaloids have been discovered. These include the first recorded instances of the occurrence of acridine derivatives in the plant kingdom — 5-acridones and 1-methyl-5-acridones — several new members of the furoquinoline group, including two with the more complex pyranofuroquinoline structure, the first recorded instances of the occurrence of canthinone derivatives, including one with the unusual methylthio-substituent and two alkaloids related to dehydrolaudanosoline. From the physiological point of view the most interesting discovery is the alkaloid cryptopleurine found by de la Lande in *Cryptocarya*

pleuroperma. This substance has a very high toxicity, approaching that of strychnine, possesses marked vesicant properties of the same order as the nitrogen mustards, is a mitotic poison, and in small concentrations stimulates nerve regeneration. Little progress has been made with the determination of the structure of cryptopleurine, which offers a problem of more than usual interest and complexity. Another alkaloid of some potential value is the dextrorotatory form of the quaternary base magnocurarine, which is structurally a close relative of the important active principle of curare, tubocurarine. The latter may be regarded as built up of two molecules of magnocurarine joined through two ether linkages.

The synthesis of a number of the acridone and canthinone alkaloids has been effected, and, in addition, attention has been given to syntheses under so-called "physiological conditions," that is to syntheses which may throw some light on biogenetic pathways. Of the many successful syntheses of alkaloids from simple substances likely to occur in the living plant and under conditions similar to those supposed to exist in a living cell, none is more elegant than a synthesis of the alkaloid sparteine carried out in the University of Sydney by Anet, Hughes and Ritchie from 5-aminopentanal (2 moles), formaldehyde (2 moles), and acetone dicarboxylic acid (1 mole).

II. Stock Poison Investigations.

For obvious reasons stock poison plants have always aroused considerable interest in this country, one manifestation being the publication of such monographs as Hurst's "Poison Plants of New South Wales." Hurst lists about 800 species occurring in New South Wales, and even if 75 per cent. of these are discounted as being wrongly suspected or of only minor significance, the list is still a formidable one. The situation is complicated by the fact that under certain circumstances recognised high-quality pasture plants may cause serious losses. For example, heavy losses suffered in

ARTICLES

- Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science.
- A Suggested Modification of the British Pharmacopoeia Method for the Quantitative Determination of Arsenic.
- The Advancing Front of Chemistry.
- Nervous Control of the Movements of the Alimentary Canal.
- Caution with Chloramphenicol.
- Government Ruling Permits Continued Use of Chloromycetin, but Doctors Warned Against Indiscriminate Use of the Antibiotic.
- Chemicals in Food.
- Production of Margarine.
- Hydrogen Peroxide Strength and Properties.
- Non-Proprietary Names.

the last decade by sheepbreeders in certain areas of Western Australia resulted from the oestrogenic activity of a strain of subterranean clover which has been traced to the isoflavone genistein. Serious losses to sheepowners have also been caused by *Heliotropium europaeum*, which is not acutely toxic, but gives rise to a chronic disease from which may develop a severe and characteristic liver damage often leading to death.

The two pyrrolizidine alkaloids, heliotrine and lasiocarpine, were isolated from the plant, and it has been established that the characteristic liver damage can be produced by heliotrine. However, attempts to devise an analytical method in order to study seasonal and local variations revealed a much more complicated pattern. Paper chromatography gave a clue which led to the recognition of the presence of amine oxides corresponding to heliotrine and lasiocarpine, while partition chromatography, employing Kieselguhr as support for an aqueous buffer with a range of water-immiscible solvents for the mobile phase, revealed the presence of at least ten components—five bases and the five corresponding N-oxides—and also provided an accurate method for estimating each of these components.

Many other Australian plants may be expected to contain pyrrolizidine alkaloids, and of these a number have been suspected of poisoning stock. Among them are *Senecio* spp., *Crotalaria* spp. and members of the family Boraginaceae, such as *Echium plantaginifolium* ("Paterson's Curse" or "Salvation Jane"), in which it has now been shown that alkaloids are present, mainly in the form of N-oxides. Another example is furnished by the Western Australian lupin, which is of importance in certain areas of that State as a summer feed for sheep, but which has recently fallen under suspicion of causing the deaths of a number of animals. Here, again, the straightforward recognition and estimation of

basic alkaloids is not the whole story. There is present in the seeds approximately 0.9 per cent. of N-oxide—three times as much as of the mixed bases. The investigation of *Heliotropium europaeum* in the C.S.I.R.O. laboratories, together with recent work in Russia and South Africa, demonstrates the limitations of much of the earlier plant extraction work, carried out without the necessity for forming a precise picture of the constituents, and there is no doubt that most of the published examinations of *Senecio* spp. and other pyrrolizidine containing plants, and of *Lupinus* spp., should be repeated. A complete picture of the nitrogenous "alkaloid-type" components of plants will only be available when a thorough search is made for amino-acid-like compounds, that is "alkaloids" containing unesterified carboxyl groups and for N-oxides and other weak bases.

To achieve this end, full use must be made of new methods which become available, for example, chromatographic techniques, which should be developed for interpretative as well as analytical purposes.

More important than technical considerations, however, for the proper development of plant chemistry in this country, is the building up of closer collaboration between organic chemist and biologist. With the entomologist the study of such problems as the resistance of certain timbers to borers must be undertaken,

with the mycologist a search for fungicides, with the geneticist the inheritance of characters capable of interpretation in chemical terms, with the veterinarian the chemistry of poison plants, and more important, those unexplained diseases caused under certain unusual conditions by standard pasture ingredients, and, last, but not least, with the botanist and pharmacologist, the continuation and extension of the exploration of our native flora — these represent but a few of the possibilities.



Dr. J. R. Price.

A SUGGESTED MODIFICATION OF THE BRITISH PHARMACOPOEIA METHOD FOR THE QUANTITATIVE DETERMINATION OF ARSENIC

By Norman E. W. McCallum.
(Pathology Department, University of Melbourne.)

The method described in the British Pharmacopoeia for the quantitative determination of arsenic is more generally known as Gutzeit's method. Evidence suggests¹ that the test was originally published in *Comptes Rendus* as a qualitative method by Mayencon and Bergeret in 1874. Gutzeit, in 1879, appears to have been the first to suggest the quantitative application of the test.

Briefly, the principle of the method described in the British Pharmacopoeia, 1948, is that hydrogen, generated from the reaction between zinc and hydrochloric acid in an arsenic-containing solution, produces arsine. The gaseous arsine produced stains a piece of filter paper which has been immersed in a saturated solution of mercuric chloride and dried. According to the amount of arsine developed from the solution, so the colour due to the reaction between the arsine and mer-

curic chloride deepens from a pale yellow to a deep brown. The test is rendered quantitative by comparison of the density of stain-colour with prepared standards. It is of interest to note that Mayencon and Bergeret recommended the use of mercuric chloride impregnated papers. Although Gutzeit's original paper² is not available, it seems indicated from an early German text³ that Gutzeit advised the use of test paper impregnated with silver nitrate. On the other hand, Stevenson and Kirby, before the Royal Commission on Arsenical Poisoning (1901)⁴, in London, both gave evidence of their use of mercuric chloride paper in "Gutzeit testing." Despite the original suggestion for the use of mercuric chloride, it is not uncommon to read that a modification of the test to improve the sensitivity is the use of mercuric chloride instead of silver nitrate paper.

The manner in which the arsine is brought into contact with the test-paper is the subject of the modification to be outlined below. At first sight it may seem unnecessary to describe the suggested alteration in view of the fact that details of this modification may be found in some modern text-books on analytical method,^{5,6} and in texts of a more specific nature.⁷ That the suggested modification cannot have escaped the notice of those responsible for selecting the official

methods of the British Pharmacopoeia is evident, in that it is described in editions XII and XIII of the Pharmacopoeia of the United States. On the other hand it seems certain, from the abundant literature which describes attempts to render the B.P. "rubber-stopper" method more efficient, that in those countries where the B.P. is an authoritative text, practising analysts have found the prescribed method unsatisfactory for their purposes.

In order to conform with the specifications of the B.P. quantitative test, arsine developed in the solution is passed through mercuric chloride test-paper, which is held between two rubber bungs, "each with a hole bored centrally and true, and exactly 6.5 mm. in diameter, the bungs being fitted together with a rubber band or spring clip for holding them firmly together." The B.P. allows that these bungs may be replaced "by any suitable contrivance" provided that:—

- (i) The whole of the gas evolved passes through the paper;
- (ii) the portion of the paper in contact with the gas is a circle of 6.5 mm in diameter;
- (iii) the paper is protected from sunlight.

Experience shows that one of the most unsatisfactory features of the B.P. paper diaphragm method is the difficulty in obtaining a clearly-defined circular register of the stain. In many instances lateral diffusion of the gas in the paper between the supporting rubber bungs produces a stain with an ill-defined margin, often circular; those accustomed to performing the test as described will be familiar with the deep-yellow circular stain showing a pale-yellow annulet beyond the 6.5 mm. diameter. It is obvious that such stains cannot be used for comparative purposes. The cause of this departure from the desired stain with sharply-defined margins and uniform density appears to be due to the difficulty in obtaining an even pressure of the clamping mechanism; this, aggravated by the elasticity of the rubber bungs, favours diffusion beyond the prescribed 6.5 mm. limit of diameter. This marginal diffusion tendency may be more readily appreciated if the apparatus is regarded as a closed system, in which gas is generated by the zinc-acid reagents. As the pressure in the system increases, the gas is forced to pass through the test-paper diaphragm. It is thus a pressure-filtering system in reverse.

It seems equally apparent that there will be difficulty in fulfilling the accurately prescribed condition that "the borings of the two bungs (or the upper bung and the glass tube) meet to form a true tube of 6.5 mm. diameter interrupted with a diaphragm of mercuric chloride paper." Of lesser importance generally, but of considerable forensic significance, is that the rubber stoppers in contact with the test-paper are not capable of being chemically cleaned.

In an attempt to remedy the apparent deficiencies of the B.P. method, numerous modifications of the "rubber-bung" method have been proposed. An examination of these provides an indication of the nature of the dissatisfaction felt among those regularly performing the test.

In 1927, three suggestions⁸ were published with a view to improving the seal of the test-paper diaphragm, one of which included the use of a bakelite plate. Scott-Dodd⁹ (1928), from the laboratory of the City Analyst, Edinburgh, published the details of a brass clip holder which he claimed produced stains which were uniform and sharp to the edge. From the City Analyst's Laboratory, Birmingham, Lerrigo¹⁰ (1928) reported the use of secotine for fixing the paper to the top of the tube in the diaphragm method. Finding this unsatisfactory, he discarded the diaphragm principle in favour of the "strip method" (discussed below). Other adhesives have been recommended to improve the seal.¹¹

Lindsey¹² (1930), of Baird and Tatlock Laboratories, described and illustrated an all-glass apparatus in which "the loss of arsenic through escape of evolved gases around the paper is reduced to a negligible mini-

mum . . ." Ward¹³ (1930) recommended a cap constructed of glass, while Davis¹⁴ (1931) described a tin screw cap to use with the rubber bungs to compel the passage of gas through the paper. One of the most effective Gutzeit test-paper holders seen by the writer is that due to Parkes¹⁵ (1946), of the Bristol Forensic Science Laboratory. Dispensing with rubber stoppers, the test paper is held between ground glass surfaces of the tubes; pressure on the joint is maintained by a spiral spring held in a metal clamping device. Although this modification has the disadvantage of relative expense of construction, it is probably the most accurate of the diaphragm systems. Other variations of the diaphragm Gutzeit method have been advocated, but will not be discussed here. One of exceptional sensitivity is that due to Satterlee and Blodgett¹⁶ (1944), and reference to the original paper should interest those concerned with the determination of arsenic in very small quantities in biological material.

In the above brief literature review, restricted in the main to English contributions, no reference has been made to other problems, such as surface area of zinc pellets, preservation of standard stains, reduction of pentavalent to trivalent arsenic, etc. These problems are common to all Gutzeit modifications. However, it is again stressed that the object in reviewing the above has been to direct attention to the numerous efforts made to devise alternative contrivances which conform with B.P. specifications of the test. In view of these many suggestions it must be conceded that experienced analysts have found the rubber-bung method, as defined, unsatisfactory.

The apparatus used by the writer is illustrated in Figure 1 — the Gutzeit "strip method." The reagents differ in no way from those of the B.P. The internal diameters and lengths of the tubes are the same as

those recorded by Scott.⁵ The apparatus has the advantage that the reaction tube (A) may be thoroughly cleaned and dried between tests. For instructional purposes the ground-glass joint (B), may be replaced with a rubber stopper and the constriction in (C) neglected. In addition, by bending the reaction tube so that it is horizontal just above the stopper (B), the constriction may also be eliminated. The apparatus then resembles that used for the Marsh test.

In the apparatus illustrated in Figure 1, a strip of mercuric chloride paper is placed in the reaction tube (A), until its lower extremity reaches the constriction; the width of the paper depends upon the diameter of the glass tubing selected for the reaction tube. The lower tube (C), carries the lead acetate paper folded in a "fluted" manner. When reaction begins between the arsine and the mercuric chloride paper, a pale yellow stain forms at the lower extremity of



Fig. 1.

the paper; as reaction proceeds the stain ascends the test paper and a deepening of colour occurs at the lower portion. In the preparation of standard stains, according to B.P. specifications, the stain produced by 0.0025 mg. As-O₃ in solution is about 2 mm. in length. The other standard stains lengthen as the amount of arsenic trioxide in the solution increases.

The factors which, in the writer's opinion, render this process worthy of consideration for inclusion in the British Pharmacopoeia are:—

(1) The process operates at atmospheric pressure, so that there is no internal pressure to interfere with the regular flow of gas.

(2) The stains may be compared both for intensity and length of stain; by the diaphragm method the depth of colour is the only standard of comparison.

(3) The manipulation of the apparatus is simpler than the diaphragm method; further, in "unknown" solutions of arsenic the selection of suitable volumes of test solution are more quickly determined. When excessive volumes are used the strip of test-paper is stained over its whole length in a few minutes.

(4) The accuracy of the strip method may be claimed to be, at least, equal to that of the diaphragm method. In tests carried out in this laboratory it was found that with test solutions containing 0.002 mg. of arsenic trioxide (using "blank" reagents which produced no stain on the paper), stains of comparable length could be obtained by the strip method. Stains produced by the diaphragm method, while being clearly evident, were not sharply delineated and did not lend themselves to critical comparison. It was found that on a quantitative basis the error at this concentration could be considerably greater than when using the strip method. When amounts of arsenic in solution exceeded 0.02 mg. of arsenic trioxide, arsenic could be detected passing through the test-paper. This was determined by setting up the apparatus using the rubber bungs. Attached to the upper stopper was a constricted glass tube (similar to (A) in Figure 1) containing a strip of test-paper. Above the concentration mentioned above, the strip detected the escaping arsine by the usual stain method. The greater the concentration of arsenic in the solution, the greater the length of stain on the strip above the upper bung. Concerning the strip method, it seems evident from the fact that the upper portion of the paper retains its original whiteness that with suitable arsenic concentrations in the solution, reaction is complete at the lower end of the paper. This is quite apart from considerations of the mean-free-path of the molecules.

The foregoing details are based on the writer's experience with both methods, and on tests carried out in the manner indicated. They are offered in support of the suggestion that consideration be given to the adoption of the strip method either in place of, or alternative to, the presently described diaphragm method of the British Pharmacopoeia for the quantitative determination of arsenic.

The author is indebted to Dr. A. W. Pound for his assistance in the experiments conducted on both of these methods.

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THE ADVANCING FRONT OF CHEMISTRY

Abstract from Presidential Address, Section B (Chemistry), British Association (Belfast Meeting, 1952).

By Prof. W. Wardlaw.

The pace of scientific, social and economic changes in modern times is unprecedentedly rapid. Thus it is easy to understand why the pace of the science of chemistry is growing ever faster and faster. In the past quarter of a century the number of investigators in both pure and applied chemistry has increased enormously, while research itself is more adequately financed and to some extent better organised than ever before. It is tempting, but not very profitable, to try to imagine what will have been accomplished, say, fifty years hence, if this acceleration continues. Chemists may well consider that the pace of advance may be such that no human mind will be able to correlate into any significant whole the enormous accumulation of chemical facts. Yet man's curiosity about the universe and his own complex self will most probably increase, and the astonishing growth of the science of chemistry will continue. At intervals during the past half century prophets have confidently predicted the demise of inorganic chemistry and even of organic chemistry. Chemistry, however, has confounded the prophets by its amazing vitality.

The award of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry for 1951 to McMillan and Seaborg directed the attention of the whole scientific world to the most spectacular advance made in chemistry for a long time: the extension of the periodic system from element 92 (uranium) to element 98 (californium). Particularly important in this work was the development of ultramicrochemical methods of analysis, which enabled the chemistry of the trans-uranium elements, usually available in millionths of a gram, to be investigated. The combined discoveries of the physicist, McMillan, and the chemist, Seaborg, and their associates, have opened whole new fields for the investigator interested in the realm of inorganic chemistry.

Chemistry already has made an indispensable contribution to atomic energy research and development, and chemists will fill a major role in establishing nuclear power as a benefit to humanity. The next phase in the development of atomic power probably depends more on new materials than on any discovery in nuclear physics or improvement in atomic technology. This extension of technological interest in new materials, all over the world, is bound to emphasise the need for broadening our knowledge of both the familiar and unfamiliar elements and compounds. It is surprising how little we know about many of the chemical elements, even the metals. We know still less about certain elements which lie midway between the metals and the non-metals, the so-called metalloids. A host of new researches has been set in motion primarily by the needs of the atomic energy programme. However, the results will be the starting point of new developments in every phase of industry. In the United States there is a great revival of interest in inorganic chemistry, and in Britain there are signs that its value and importance are being increasingly realised.

During the past decade most people have had an uneasy feeling that all is not well with their food. As we all know, the food processor has chemicals for every need—preservatives, emulsifiers, colouring agents, etc. Some idea of the magnitude of this problem of chemicals in food can be obtained from the report of the Delaney Committee set up in June, 1950, by the United States Congress. The Committee heard the striking evidence from the officers of the Food and Drug Administration that 704 extraneous substances were

thought to be in use. Of these, only 428 were considered harmless as normally employed, leaving 276 of which the safety was open to question. There is little doubt that the wide publicity which this subject is receiving will call for planned administrative action in the United Kingdom.

NERVOUS CONTROL OF THE MOVEMENTS OF THE ALIMENTARY CANAL

Abstract of Presidential Address, Section I (Physiology), British Association (Belfast Meeting, 1952).

By Prof. R. C. Garry.

In spite of continuing interest and of steady research, our present attitude towards the nervous control of the alimentary canal differs little from that expressed with general acceptance more than fifty years ago by Bayliss and Starling. Yet many facts have since been elicited which appear not to conform to their original conception and constructive attacks have been made on certain aspects. Nevertheless, for want of a better, we have still to subscribe, more or less, to the original hypothesis.

When entirely separate from the body, the intestine, if kept under suitable conditions, can still show co-ordinated movements. There must be some form of intrinsic control. Certain simple and local movements may be "myogenic," and independent of the nervous elements in the gut wall. Peristaltic waves, however, may extend over a considerable length of gut, moving only caudad. Bayliss and Starling believed that peristalsis is governed by a reflex in the nervous myenteric plexus of Auerbach. This belief has been vigorously attacked from several sources, but modern work seems once more to emphasise the importance of the nervous element.

Much of the present uncertainty is due to our imperfect knowledge of the histology of the nervous plexuses in the gut wall. Are there receptors in the intestine? If so, what is their nature and where are they located? Do axons passing from the gut into the central nervous system make contact with nerve cells in the myenteric plexus? How many types of nerve cell are present in the wall of the intestine? How are the outgoing axons from the nervous system to the gut distributed to these nerve cells in the gut? Until the histologists can give an answer to these questions, we may be unable to interpret satisfactorily the nature of the control of the intrinsic movements of the intestine.

In the intact animal the autonomic nervous system undoubtedly influences the activity of the gut; and it is attractive to believe that the two divisions of the autonomic system, the orthosympathetic and parasympathetic, oppose one another, as they are known to do elsewhere in the body. Yet there are many observations inconsistent with this view. It may easily be that our experimental approach is crude and is responsible for the observations inconsistent with theory. In spite of everything the original conception still holds the field, partly due to its inherent logical tidiness and partly to its appeal to our preconceived notions.

At the cranial and caudal ends of the gut there is less dubiety. There the alimentary canal seems to lose much of its autonomy and to come more intimately under the influence of the nervous system. The complex acts of swallowing, vomiting and defaecation are undoubtedly governed by elaborate reflexes which control not only movements of the gut, but also the behaviour of skeletal musculature.

In the body, the intestine not only receives nerve impulses from the central nervous system, but also sends

impulses into the nervous system. Recent work has disentangled the routes followed by these ingoing nerve impulses, but we still do not know exactly how and where they arise. Neither do we understand the normal function of these ingoing nerve impulses. They may give rise to sensation, but apparently only when the normal gives place to the abnormal. Moreover, the controversy concerning the nature of sensation from the viscera is by no means settled. Once more, only at the extremities of the gut can we form a clear picture of the nature and functions of the impulses which pass inwards into the central nervous system. It may easily be that a better understanding of the nature of the nervous control of the intestinal movements will depend not so much on the physiologist as on the histologist and morphologist.

CAUTION WITH CHLORAMPHENICOL

In an editorial note, "Cloud Over Chloramphenicol," the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, 26/7/1952, wrote:—

The introduction of the sulphonamides and their expanding use in medicine have brought a decline in the mortality rate from many diseases, such as pneumonia, puerperal sepsis and bacterial meningitis, but it was recognised early that with indiscriminate use toxic reaction might occur. Penicillin has been shown to be almost free from these disadvantages, but some of the antibiotics are not quite so blameless. It is well known, for example, that streptomycin will produce lesions of the eighth nerve, and liver damage has been reported from the use of aureomycin.

The only synthetically prepared antibiotic, chloramphenicol, which has been in use in Great Britain for about three years, might have been expected to produce untoward effects on the blood-forming organs because of the aromatic nitro-group which it contains, but no evidence of such reactions has so far been reported in this country. It is therefore disturbing to note that a recent issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (July 5) contains three reports in which are described a total of ten fatal cases of aplastic anaemia, following treatment with chloramphenicol. In consequence, a nation-wide survey is to be undertaken by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration of all cases of aplastic anaemia associated with chloramphenicol, and, meantime, doctors have been advised to carry out blood counts on all patients receiving the antibiotic. Chloramphenicol is widely used in America, and it has recently become possible to buy supplies for self-medication. It has been accepted by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry, and, although there was little evidence at the time to suggest that serious reactions might occur, the following statement appears in the general note on antibiotics included in the 1951 issue of *New and Non-Official Remedies*:—

"Changes in the peripheral blood or the blood-forming organs have been reported only during the use of chloramphenicol. Mild hemolytic anaemias, granulocytopenia (no cases of agranulocytosis so far) and an arrest in the maturation of the formed elements in the marrow have been described."

It is evident that, as in other drugs which may produce aplastic anaemia (for example, the organic arsenicals and gold compounds), no relationship exists between the size of the dose and the appearance of the blood change, and, until the results of the American investigation are available, it will not be possible to assess the possible dangers involved. No statement has so far been issued by the Ministry of Health, but it is understood that the situation is being carefully watched. Meantime, it is suggested in a leading article in the *British Medical Journal* for July 19, that the only absolute and imperative use for chloramphenicol is in typhoid fever.

GOVERNMENT RULING PERMITS CONTINUED USE OF CHLOROMYCETIN, BUT DOCTORS WARNED AGAINST INDISCRIMINATE USE OF THE ANTIBIOTIC

By L.G.D.

One of the most potent of the antibiotics, chloromycetin, considered by many medical authorities as the best treatment for typhoid fever yet developed, and which has also been used effectively against scrub typhus, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, undulant fever, blood poisoning, and a number of gastro-urinary infections, has been cleared for continued use by doctors by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration following an intensive investigation of the drug. The F.D.A. ruled, however, that henceforth the drug must be clearly labelled to caution physicians explicitly against its indiscriminate use or use of the antibiotic for minor infections. The Government's investigation of the drug and the ruling just handed down were prompted by disclosures by the American Medical Association that chloromycetin — also known as chloramphenicol — had been responsible for a number of blood disorders, notably aplastic anaemia, that have resulted in death for patients treated with the drug.

In making the Government's decision known, Charles W. Crawford, Commissioner of Food and Drugs, said that the Administration had "weighed the value of the drug against its capabilities for causing harm, and has decided that it should continue to be available for careful use by the medical profession in those serious and sometimes fatal diseases in which its use is necessary."

The widely-circulated American Medical Association reports of blood disorders attributed to chloromycetin started the F.D.A. on a nation-wide survey of case records in hospitals and clinics. The case histories turned up by the survey were referred by the F.D.A. to the non-governmental National Research Council for its aid in evaluating the information, and subsequently the final ruling was based on the findings and recommendations of a special committee of the Council's Division of Medical Sciences.

The special committee, composed of outstanding authorities on hematology and infectious diseases, was headed by Dr. John Holmes Dingle, Professor of Preventive Medicine at Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. The committee considered the records of 410 cases of serious blood disorders, of which 177 were definitely known to have been associated with the use of chloromycetin. In 61 cases chloromycetin was the only drug administered. In the remaining 116 cases other drugs had also been used. In both groups fatalities totalled 50 per cent., attributable to aplastic anaemia and related conditions, in which the bone marrow lost its ability to manufacture both red and white cells of the blood.

Following its evaluation of the facts as presented both by the F.D.A. and by Parke, Davis and Company, sole manufacturers of chloromycetin, the special committee reported as follows:—

1. Certain cases of serious blood dyscrasias (aplastic anaemia, thrombocytopenic purpura, granulocytopenia, and pancytopenia) have been associated with the administration of chloramphenicol.
2. Although this complication has thus far been uncommon, it is sufficiently important to warrant a warning on the label of packages of the drug and in advertisements of the drug, and the recommendation that chloramphenicol not be used indiscriminately as for minor infections.
3. When prolonged or intermittent administration is required, adequate blood studies should be carried out.
4. In view of the paucity of information at the present time the committee recommended that further studies of serious reactions to chloramphenicol and other drugs be promoted.

In the face of the Committee's recommendations, Commissioner Crawford said the labelling of chloromycetin will be changed to include the following warning: "WARNING: Blood dyscrasias may be associated with intermittent or prolonged use. It is essential that adequate blood studies be made when prolonged or intermittent administration of the drug is required. Chloromycetin should not be used indiscriminately or for minor infections."

Discovered in 1948 in a soil sample found in Venezuela, South America, chloromycetin was placed on the market the following year by Parke, Davis and Company, and since its introduction it is estimated that it has been administered to about 8,000,000 patients. Chloromycetin is one of five antibiotics certified by the Food and Drug Administration. The others are penicillin, streptomycin, aureomycin and terramycin. With the exception of penicillin and streptomycin, all are wide-spectrum antibiotic drugs. All of these drugs are derived from moulds.

Parke, Davis President Hails Decision.

Commenting on the Government's ruling, Harry J. Loynd, president of Parke, Davis and Company, said:—

"The F.D.A. decision certainly reflects new credit on the research scientists who discovered and perfected chloromycetin, and the clinical investigators who made exhaustive tests before chloromycetin was first made available to the medical profession. This antibiotic has now successfully passed three intensive investigations, originally by Parke, Davis and Company, and more recently by the Food and Drug Administration and the Division of Medical Sciences of the National Research Council."

CHEMICALS IN FOOD

Conclusions of an American Investigation.

A select committee of the United States House of Representatives, set up to investigate the nature, extent and effect of the use of chemicals, compounds and synthetics in the production, processing preparation and packaging of food products and their influence on public health and agricultural economy, has recently issued its first report. Also considered by the committee were pesticides, insecticides, and chemical fertilisers.

The report states that for many agricultural chemicals now in use there is a lack of fundamental knowledge of their chemical, pharmacological and therapeutic properties and of methods for the detection and determination of poisonous residues in crops. In the processing, preservation and production of food there is no objection to the introduction of chemicals per se; they are often beneficial. But harmful pesticides, or pesticides that have not been proved to be harmless, have been used. D.D.T., for instance, when used in cow byres to kill flies has been found in milk in amounts up to 2 p.p.m. and selenium compounds, used as insecticides, cause liver damage in experimental animals, and have been found in apples in amounts of up to 3 p.p.m.

Other examples quoted are p-phenetyleurea, which has long been used as a sweetening agent, and which has now been found to be toxic when ingested in small amounts over a long period; lithium chloride, which was one of the ingredients of a salt substitute and which is poisonous when the sodium chloride of the body is reduced; and mineral oil, long regarded as harmless and used as a substitute for food oils, which has now been shown to interfere with the absorption of certain vitamins and to cause lipid pneumonia in infants. The evidence presented did not permit any conclusion to be drawn regarding the possible long-term effects of synthetic emulsifiers or surface active agents on human metabolism. Many of the witnesses who appeared before the committee felt that the existing laws did not give sufficient protection from the risks incurred by chemicals in foods. Further evidence was submitted at subsequent hearings.

The possible dangers of certain chemicals have been investigated by the Food and Drug Administration. The results of this work indicate that saccharin and sodium cyclohexylsulphamate, are suitable for use as sweetening agents and that n-propyl gallate, thiodipropionic acid and its dilauryl and distearyl esters, gum guaiac, butylated hydroxy anisole and nordihydroguaiaretic acid are safe as anti-oxidants in edible fats and oils in concentrations prescribed by the Bureau of Animal Industry.

Quaternary ammonium wetting agents are considered poisonous, and, it is stated, their use in food cannot be justified. Alkyl aryl sulphates and sulphonates are considered safe for washing fruit and vegetables, etc., if followed by adequate rinsing. Methyl polysilicone is a safe anti-foaming agent if the concentration does not exceed 10 p.p.m., and unpublished data on methyl and carboxymethyl cellulose show that there is no intestinal absorption and that they are otherwise innocuous.

Of the chlorinated insecticides, Chlordane is the most hazardous and Lindane the least hazardous. Among the organic phosphates, Parathion in amounts ranging from 2 to 5 p.p.m. is not considered dangerous to health. The pyrethrins are amongst the safest of the insecticides and toxicological hazards under the conditions of use are considered to be remote. Mercury compounds are highly toxic and any benefit to be derived from their use as fungicides must be weighed carefully against the hazard. With regard to the dinitro derivatives, further study is necessary before their safety or otherwise can be properly assessed. Copper salts are considered unlikely to produce chronic toxicity, and 30 p.p.m. in food is believed to be safe.—Pharm. J., July 19, 1952.

PRODUCTION OF MARGARINE

World-Wide Increase.

(From Chemical & Engineering News, July 28, 1952.)

In a speech at the annual meeting of Unilever recently Sir Geoffrey Heyworth stressed the rapidly growing importance of edible fats, especially margarine, in the nutrition of a world population, which is for the most part increasing rapidly; and with a standard of living which should be maintained in the leading industrial countries and should most certainly be improved in the less-developed countries. This means the optimum use of land with maximum yield of nutrition units.

Edible fats constitute 78 per cent. of the total oils and fats production (animal and vegetable) with only about 13 per cent. for soap and 9 per cent. for other technical purposes. More fats are added to the diet as the level of prosperity rises, and saturation point has probably not been reached anywhere, not even in the U.S.

The relation between income and fat consumption has lately been studied. It has been shown that per capita consumption of fat ranges from 7.9 pounds per annum to 42.7 pounds, going from low income levels to the highest. During the past century, in Western Europe and U.S., demand per head has about doubled; population also has doubled, so four times as much fat is now required as in 1850. Increased supplies must come mainly from edible fats of vegetable origin, and especially margarine, production of which in Western Europe reached about 1 million tons in 1938, while butter production was 1,462,000 tons.

Reference was made to the conclusions reached by G. Smits, of the Central Institute for Nutrition Research, Utrecht. If vitamins A and D are added to margarine in requisite amount, as is now the practice, it is in no wise inferior to butter in food value. The main question today is: How much can the housewife afford to pay for the distinctive flavour of butter? This depends on relative supplies of butter and margarine, and prices. This is in turn affected by the milk position and its consumption in liquid form. More is now being consumed in this form, so that less is available for

butter. Amid the complexities of dairy farming economics, including cheese, one point stands out clearly: the rapidly increasing demand for fats cannot, to any great extent, be met from increasing butter and cheese supplies. Margarine is the main source of supply. Since 1938 butter production has declined, but the manufacture of margarine has increased to 2,330,000 tons, including vegetable ghee and excluding Russian controlled production. (Butter and ordinary ghee amounts to about 3.3 million tons now, as compared with 3.93 million in 1938.)

This increase in margarine is likely to continue despite restrictions on its manufacture in some countries, prompted largely by agricultural interest. This usually takes the form of a colouring prohibition, which was still in force in 23 American States in 1947, though it has been abolished in some of them since that date. The position in Canada, South Africa, and France is somewhat similar. Even in India there is some discrimination against vegetable ghee or vanaspathi, notwithstanding the urgent need of the people of that country for a cheap source of fat made from their own oilseed crops.

All this leads to the supremely important question: the optimum use of land. One aspect of this fundamental question is that large areas of the earth's surface are not suitable for the practice of a milk and meat agriculture, e.g., in the equatorial forest areas of South America, Africa, and South-east Asia. But such areas are for the most part a highly suitable habitat for the invaluable oil palm, the cultivation of which, as one of the world's main sources of increased fat supplies, will in both the near and distant future have to be developed on a large scale.

It is interesting to note that the soya bean crop, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, yields 150 pounds of vegetable fat per acre of land, as compared with the cow's 46 pounds of butter fat. Sir Geoffrey Heyworth stressed the point that the world's increasing need for milk and cheese and butter will ensure the dairy farmer's continued prosperity, and there is no need to assume that increased production of margarine will mean reduced butter and dairy products needs.

HYDROGEN PEROXIDE STRENGTH AND PROPERTIES

(Abstracted from an article by V. M. Slater, in *The Export Review*, May, 1952.)

When used in diluted form, as in a bleaching bath, it is convenient to express the strength of hydrogen peroxide as volume strength instead of percentage, meaning the volume of oxygen evolved from one volume of the hydrogen peroxide solution. Hydrogen peroxide is sold on a percentage basis, however, and the following table shows the relationship between the description by volume and the per cent. of hydrogen peroxide by weight.

Per cent. Hydrogen Peroxide (by weight)	Volume strength
3.01	10 volumes
5.95	20 volumes
27.52	100 volumes
35.32	132 volumes

Hydrogen peroxide decomposes into water and oxygen, and the principal uses of hydrogen peroxide have centred round the utilisation of this oxygen. The efficient use of hydrogen peroxide depends upon being able to control the rate of decomposition, which is in general increased by three factors: (a) increased temperature, (b) increased pH value, (c) presence of catalysts. The effect of catalysts is complicated, the metallic ions having the greatest effect being platinum, copper, manganese and iron. Generally the decomposition of hydrogen peroxide can be retarded by an increase in the purity of the solution and by the use of stabilisers. Other factors affecting the decomposition of hydrogen peroxide are, for example, surface action and irradiation.



Applied Pharmaceutics

A Section devoted to problems of every-day practice.

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THIS MONTH:

Dosage of P.A.S. and Streptomycin Resistance.

Inactivation of Insulin by Freezing.

Manufacture of Acid Hydrochlor. Dil.

DISPENSING PROBLEMS

Dosage of P.A.S. and Streptomycin Resistance

Up to the present a dosage of 12 to 15 gm. of P.A.S. per diem has been recommended. It now appears that some modification of this recommendation will have to be made. A report has been published (May 31, 1952) by the Medical Research Council, concerning the results of its investigation into the relationship of P.A.S. dosage and streptomycin-resistance. Here is a summary:—

A series of 115 patients with acute progressive pulmonary tuberculosis was studied in a clinical trial of streptomycin and P.A.S. (concurrent treatment). All were treated for three months with one gramme streptomycin daily. In addition, 42 patients received 20 grammes P.A.S. daily, 39 received 10 grammes daily, 34 received three grammes daily.

Analysis of results of streptomycin sensitivity tests shows significant differences between the groups. In the third month of treatment 32 per cent. of those receiving streptomycin and 5 grammes P.A.S. daily had resistant strains; 8 per cent. in those receiving streptomycin and 10 grammes P.A.S. daily; 4 per cent. of those receiving streptomycin and 20 grammes daily.

Subsequently the figures rose in both groups receiving the lower doses, but remain very low in the group receiving streptomycin and 20 grammes P.A.S. daily. For example, in the fourth month the proportion of resistant cases was 47 per cent., in the 5 grammes group 43 per cent. in the 10 grammes group and only 15 per cent. in the 20 grammes group. In the sixth month of treatment corresponding figures were 36 per cent., 30 per cent. and 7 per cent.

In a statistical review of the M.R.C. report, Professor Bradford Hill and Dr. Marc Daniels state: "In view of the outstanding results in all groups on combined chemotherapy, and of the finding that even small doses of P.A.S. reduce appreciably the risk of drug resistance (compared with streptomycin alone), it is not possible to lay down absolute recommendations on dosage. The clinician must in each case weigh the lessened risk of drug resistance when high doses of P.A.S. are used against the greater digestive discomfort high doses may produce in the patient. The best working rule is probably to continue to give the maximum dose of 20

grammes of sodium P.A.S. unless it is not tolerated by the patient.

It is only after the passage of time that one can draw final conclusions on the matter of dosage of a drug whose effects are not only therapeutic, but which are complicated by the consideration of the induction or prevention of bacterial resistance. In view of the thoroughness, the statistical accuracy and the authority of the Medical Research Council, it seems that a dosage of 20 gm. of sodium or calcium P.A.S. must be accepted as correct. Naturally, the ability of individual patients to accept this maximal dosage has to be considered in every case by the prescriber—A.D.J. (Vic.).

This contribution is important to the pharmacist as it affects a matter of dosage and prescribing custom, important in determining the "context" in which new drugs are used.

Inactivation of Insulin by Freezing

Recently our refrigerator control failed on normal setting, and was temporarily adjusted to a slightly lower temperature. Three days later a new control was installed and that afternoon it was noticed that some unboxed Insulin was frozen. On examination it was found that large quantities of both Insulin and Liq. Adrenal. Hydrochlor. were frozen solid.

On enquiry from the respective manufacturers, it was established that although the Liq. Adrenalin. Hydrochlor. was unharmed by the low temperature, the Insulin was inactivated.—M.M. (Vic.).

Pharmacists should note the general warning given in the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories handbook concerning the storage of biological products. A naked bottle of Insulin, in a prominent position in the refrigerator, will act as a "marker" and is a good safeguard against wrapped bottles freezing without being observed. Insulin which has been frozen should be destroyed.

Manufacture of Acid Hydrochlor. Dil.

Manufacturers of strong hydrochloric acid are in the habit of supplying an acid for pharmaceutical purposes, which does not fall within the B.P. percentage of HCl. For subsequent making of dilute acid in the pharmacy the "gravity" should be used to make the calculation.—D.T. (Vic.).

The Language of Chemistry

Words Now Internationally Recognised Stem from Ancient Greek and Latin

By Phil Glanser.

Chemistry has a dictionary all its own. Today its words and definitions are accepted by every country in the world—but it was not always so. In the early days there was much confusion, as different discoveries were made in different countries, and were written up in a variety of languages.

After a long period of linguistic chaos in chemical terminology, the brilliant French lawyer-chemist Cuyton de Norveau drafted a systematic nomenclature of inorganic chemistry in the 1780's. Upon recommendation of three contemporary chemists, Lavoisier, Barthollet and du Fourcroy, it was adopted by the French Academy of Science and published in 1787.

De Morveau's nomenclature is still in use, although extensive amendments and additions have been made to keep it up to date.

Together with a set of rules for organic compounds adopted by an international conference held in Geneva in 1892 it bridged the gap between chemists and physicists throughout the world.

Since the Greeks were the original teachers of chemical science, Greek naturally became the foundation of its terminology, and a great number of currently-used names can be traced back to that language. For example, plastic, used as an adjective, is first encountered in English in 1632. It is an adoption of the Latin word "plasticus," in turn an adoption of a Greek word meaning "that may be moulded." Physics is another word of Greek origin, meaning "the knowledge of nature." It was adopted by the old Romans in the form "physica," becoming "fisque" in old French, and finally appearing in middle English—between 1150 and 1450—in its present form.

Early Arabic Influence.

Hydrogen, and the now obsolete form "hydrogene," is an adoption of the French "hydrogene." It is a combination of two words, "hydro-gene," both of Greek origin. "Hydro" means water and "gene" or "gene" "born in a certain place" or condition, or—"of a specified kind;" as a suffix it is used in the sense—"that which produces." The Arabs also took a prominent part in the development of early chemistry, and left their mark on its terminology. When they overran Egypt about the middle of the seventh century they were already a people of a high culture, and eagerly absorbed the chemical teachings of the Greek-Alexandrian school.

The 12th century saw the Moors in Spain as the leading scholars of the world. The word "alcohol" is a familiar example of the Arabic influence. It is a Latin adoption of the old Arabic "al'kohl," first used in English in its present sense in 1543. It was originally used in the Far East to describe a fine metallic powder for staining the eyelids.

The word "chemistry" itself is an example of the interrelation between Greek and Arabic, although its origin has never been definitely established. One theory states that it came from the Greek word "chemy" or "chemia," meaning "pouring" or "infusion" used in connection with the mixing of plant juices. "Chemia" or "chemi" was also the old name for Egypt, and the "science of chemia" might simply have meant the "science of Egypt."

The other contention is that it stems from the Arabic word "khem" or "khame," meaning "black earth," in contrast to barren sand. Later Arabic writers used the form "al-kimiya," which may come from "chemia"—Egypt. It may also have been derived from the

Greek word "chymnos"—liquid. Chemistry was for centuries referred to as "alchemy," in which the prefix "al" is the Arabic article "the." This article disappeared gradually from the middle of the 17th century.

Latin Words Fundamental.

Latin, too, is one of the main sources of chemical terms.

Although it is losing much of its importance as the scholastic language of the world, it has retained a strong influence in scientific terminology. Fertiliser is a good example of a word from Latin origins. It is first encountered in English in 1661, and is formed on "fertile," used as early as 1460. This is an adoption of the French "fertile," which in turn comes from the Latin "fertilis"—producing in abundance, fruitful, or prolific.

"Explosives" is of fairly recent adoption in English—first encountered in 1667. It comes from the Latin "explodere" or "explaudere"—to drive off the stage by noise, (ex)-plaudere, to clap. It was also used in the sense—"to go off with a loud report," or—"to fly in pieces under the influence of suddenly-developed internal energy." More recent terms are made up largely from the chief components of the product such as "aluminum," named from its oxide—alumina and its chief salts—the alums. Others are fabricated as convenient names, like "rayon" and "nylon."

Some elements are named after localities of origin, such as "ruthenium," discovered in Ruthenia. Uranium was named after the planet Uranus. Radium was named thus on account of its radio-active property. Finally, some elements are given the names of outstanding scientists, like "curium," named after Mme. Curie.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA PHARMACY ACT

The Pharmacy, Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Bill of Southern Rhodesia has passed through its first stages, and is scheduled to come into force on January 1, 1953. The Bill, which regulates the practice of pharmacy and the sale of poisons in Southern Rhodesia, follows in many respects the pattern of similar legislation in Great Britain, although there are certain distinctions. It appears that if restricted titles are used a corporate body carrying on the business of chemist and druggist must, in future, in the case of a public company, have a majority of the members of the Board who are registered as chemists and druggists. In the case of a private company the majority of the shares must be held by a qualified person. Partnership is to be permitted between a qualified and unqualified person, but if there are more than two partners the majority must be qualified. The use of the initials "M.P.S." is to be restricted to members of the Southern Rhodesian Society, but persons holding the British qualification are entitled to membership without further examination; membership is not compulsory.

Disclosure of composition is to be required as from January 1, 1954, in respect of all substances recommended as a medicine. This feature of the Bill follows British legislation, and its application is confined to retail transactions as in this country.—"The Pharmaceutical Journal."

Pharmaceutical Benefits Act

Amending Bill

A Bill to amend the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act 1947-1950 was introduced in the House of Representatives on October 7, and will come into operation on the day on which it receives the Royal Assent.

The Bill.

The provisions of the Bill are as follow:—

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

To amend the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act 1947-1950.

1. (1) This Act may be cited as the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act 1952.

(2) The Pharmaceutical Benefits Act 1947-1950 is in this Act referred to as the Principal Act.

(3) The Principal Act, as amended by this Act, may be cited as the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act 1947-1952.

2. This Act shall come into operation on the day on which it receives the Royal Assent.

3. Section nineteen of the Principal Act is repealed, and the following section inserted in its stead:—

"19. (1) The Minister may, for the purposes of this Act, establish such other committees as he thinks fit.

(2) A committee established under this section shall not enquire into or advise or report upon, a matter concerning the conduct of—

(a) medical practitioners, or a particular medical practitioner; or

(b) pharmaceutical chemists, or a particular pharmaceutical chemist,

unless all the members of the committee who take part in the proceedings of the committee in relation to the matter, other than a member who is an officer of the Public Service of the Commonwealth, are medical practitioners or pharmaceutical chemists, as the case may be."

4. Section twenty-three of the Principal Act is amended—

(a) by omitting paragraph (f) and inserting in its stead the following paragraphs:—

"(f) for prescribing the constitution, powers, functions, duties and procedure of committees established by or under this Act;

"(fa) for prescribing, or providing for the fixing of, the fees and allowances payable to members of committees established by or under this Act, other than members who are officers of the Public Service of the Commonwealth or of the State;

"(fb) for investing any court of a State with Federal jurisdiction with respect to any matter arising under the regulations;

"(fc) for conferring jurisdiction on any court of a Territory of the Commonwealth with respect to any matter arising under the regulations; and"; and

(b) by adding at the end thereof the following subsection:—

"(2) The powers that may be prescribed in respect of a committee established by or under this Act include power to require persons to attend as witnesses and to be examined upon oath or affirmation.

The Minister's Introductory Speech.

In introducing the Bill, the Minister for Health, Sir Earle Page, said:—

I thank the House for the courtesy that it has shown

in granting me leave to move the second reading of the Bill forthwith. This Bill is designed to amend the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act, in order to enable the partnership established between the Government and the medical and pharmaceutical professions to work smoothly and efficiently in implementing the free life-saving drug scheme. The previous Government had tried methods of compulsion on these professions. The present Government adopted methods of co-operation, resulting in satisfaction to the whole community. The essence of all phases of the present Government's national health programme is the creation of a nationwide partnership between the community at large, the Government, the providers of medical and therapeutic services, and all voluntary organisations that specialise in providing services for the sick. This partnership functions by using the agency to carry out the work that is nearest to, and best fitted for, the job. Thus, experts control operations in which they are expert. As a result, the whole scheme is working very smoothly.

Provision for Appointing Disciplinary Committees.

Supervision of the scheme, and discipline of its participants, are secured by advisory committees nominated by executives of the professional organisations engaged in implementing the scheme. There was no provision for setting up these professional advisory and disciplinary committees in the original act. This Bill simply supplies that lack. We have been using committees in connection with the Pensioners' scheme.

Consolidating Act Foreseen.

The amendments which are now to be placed in the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act will be substantive clauses of the new master national health act, which will repeal all the existing health acts and consolidate and co-ordinate the whole of the Commonwealth health legislation. This Bill will be introduced early next year.

A Survey of Pharmaceutical Benefits.

In the implementation of the scheme, the provision of free life-saving drugs was made one of the first steps in the prevention and cure of disease. This step was taken in the early stage because of its immediate effect on many phases of individual and national health. For instance, free use of the wonder drugs cuts short, or even prevents, many infectious diseases in the individual. This lessens the time of stay in hospitals of such patients, thus permitting a quicker turnover of hospital beds and making their use more effective. The smoothness, effectiveness and popularity of the scheme are shown by the use that has been made of it since its introduction in September, 1950, when the free distribution of life-saving and disease-preventing drugs was inaugurated.

Statistical Information.

It is impossible to number the lives that have been saved and the amount of human suffering alleviated; but some idea of its effectiveness, and certainly its popularity, is seen in the statistical information that is now available for the year ended June 30, 1952. Pharmaceutical benefits paid from the National Welfare Fund through approved chemists, doctors and private hospitals totalled £6,699,002. Altogether, 6,512,826 prescriptions were written, in respect of which the sum of £598,279 was paid through public hospitals and other instrumentalities, the percentages in relation to the totals for Australia being, respectively,

approximately 25 per cent. and 50 per cent. Amounts paid in respect of each State were:—

State	Number of Prescriptions	Expenditure £
New South Wales	2,433,265	2,520,246
Victoria	2,028,577	2,114,148
Queensland	858,944	798,114
South Australia	604,213	674,928
Western Australia	430,349	447,515
Tasmania	140,382	129,122
Australian Capital Territory	17,046	14,929
Total	6,512,826	6,699,002

The saving on free life-saving drugs amounted to 16/6 per capita, which is more than equal to the annual premium per capita for hospital insurance. Under the limited scheme that was introduced by the previous Government, a total of £294,446 was expended, and only 903,027 prescriptions were written during a period of 27 months.

The Pensioners' Medical Service.

Conscious of the special needs of pensioners for medical care, a service was designed to provide a general practitioner medical service to age, invalid, widows, and service pensioners, and tuberculosis allowees and their dependants. Last year this service cost £1,034,225. At June 3, 1952, approximately 501,367 pensioners and their dependants were covered by the service, in which the majority of doctors engaged in general practice were enrolled. The success of the medical service to pensioners is evidenced in the fact that 2,332,824 medical services were given during the 1951-52 year.

Work of the Advisory Committees.

The antibiotic drugs available in both these services have been only recently discovered and developed. They are very potent. To secure the best results, they must be used with discrimination, with skill and care. Their unnecessary use in minor cases may cause a development of germ resistance, not only in the patients, but also in the community. This lessens their value and efficacy in serious cases. In fact, patients may be rendered allergic to their use. Consequently, these drugs cannot be used when they would have been especially valuable to a patient seriously ill with a specific infectious disease. Their use must be safeguarded for effective life-saving purposes in serious specific diseases, which might otherwise prove fatal. It is obvious that this necessitates the closest co-operation and liaison between the medical and pharmaceutical professions and the Government. First, drugs must be chosen whose value has been proved. Secondly, there must be advice and supervision of the exhibition of these potent drugs to patients. Through the development of this spirit of partnership and removal of arbitrary controls and legislation, active support, co-operation and advice in these respects have been made available by doctors and chemists, all of whom have co-operated in the scheme. Their official organisations have nominated men of the highest standing, experience and skill to serve on committees, which work in the closest co-operation with the Government and its advisers. The object of this Bill is to regularise these committees and to give to them statutory powers, which will enable them to function effectively.

When the Government took office, my first responsibility was the appointment of a pharmaceutical or life-saving drugs advisory committee. The organised medical profession made available five highly-esteemed physicians, drawn from the States of Australia, together with two professors of Pharmacology. The functions of the committee are to examine and report to the Minister on any drug or medicine suggested for inclusion in the list of drugs under this act, and/or for

their deletion and to advise on any matter relating to the list of benefits. No drug, or medicine, will be included in the list unless it has been approved by this committee. The principle has been observed that all the drugs should be specific and individual. The list is continually under review, and the lists are made available to doctors and chemists. The chemists are provided with a price list agreed with the Pharmaceutical Guild. I am happy to be able to say, that as a result of the smooth working of the scheme, the Government has been able to pay its accounts inside a month of receiving the chemists' accounts.

Undesirable Trends.

In a scheme of such magnitude many problems and unexpected difficulties are unavoidably encountered. To overcome these, the medical and pharmaceutical professions agreed to set up committees to advise me of the ways and means of ironing out these problems. Practical experience gained in the provision of these various services over the last 18 months to two years has shown that, without adequate control and supervision, some practices can arise which are not entirely in the best interest either of the patients or the medical profession, taken as a whole. These practices may cause the total cost of these services to be unduly high. For example, practical experience in the widespread use of some of the new antibiotic drugs has shown that prescribing habits can arise which are clinically unjustifiable and can also cause the cost for supplying them to rise to excessive levels. In no quarter has this tendency been observed and noted more promptly than by the medical profession itself. The Federal Council of the British Medical Association agreed some 12 months ago to establish committees with various functions in all States, and also to set up certain advisory committees for the Commonwealth.

Committees of Inquiry and Investigation to Be Set Up.

Regulations have been drafted under the National Health Services Act which will establish committees of inquiry and investigation into abnormal activities of chemists and doctors under the pensioner medical service. These regulations will be promulgated in the near future. They will provide for the Minister to refer details of the various matters and circumstances encountered in the practical administration of these schemes to these committees. These will be in a position to suggest, or recommend, to the Minister, certain action that he might take to achieve the more efficient operation of the services. Also, where necessary, with respect to any individuals whose conduct has been questionable the committees may recommend appropriate action against such persons. In order that similar provisions may exist with respect to the activities of doctors, chemists and other persons under the Commonwealth pharmaceutical benefits service, it has been found necessary to bring the provisions of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act, with respect to committees, into line with the provisions which exist in the National Health Service Act and deal with the pensioner medical service. As the position stands at the moment, the act provides for the establishment of only one committee in each State. Experience has shown the need for a separate Federal committee in each State, composed of doctors in instances in which the matters that arise relate to doctors, and composed of pharmaceutical chemists in instances in which the matters that arise relate to chemists. The National Health Service Act is broad enough in its scope to authorise the setting up of such committees and provides authority for the committees which deal with matters under the pensioner medical service. The same position will now obtain with respect to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act.

At the present time, where, for example, there is a technical or a minor breach by a chemist of the regulations made under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act, the only remedial action open to the Government is to cancel the pharmacist's approval to supply pharmaceutical benefits, to proceed against him under the

act, or to institute criminal proceedings. This state of affairs is, of course, wrong. It is considered far better, not only from the point of view of the person concerned, but also in the interest of the profession and of the public generally, that the various matters which arise from time to time and require investigation should be dealt with by a committee of professional experts acquainted with the usages and customs of their profession. They can make appropriate recommendations to the Minister as to the action he might take. This system, of course, does not preclude the use of normal legal proceedings, which would be employed where the facts of the case warranted such action. Such action has actually been taken in certain instances in respect of both doctors and chemists.

The investigations and inquiries of these committees will help the Government to control the provisions of these services by closely supervising the activities of all persons participating in them. These researches will provide a body of knowledge and experience from which beneficial rules may be established and varied as the situation demands from time to time. The committees will investigate, report, and make recommendations to the Minister for Health on matters that may be referred to them. As these committees will be operated by and with the full co-operation of the executives of the various branches of the British Medical Association and the Pharmaceutical Guild, the deterrent effects which the committees should have on malpractice under the various schemes should be considerable and should have a salutary effect on fraudulent, extravagant and wasteful provision of services within reasonable limits; and only such services as are necessary and expedient in the interest of the people's health will be made available. The work of the medical and pharmaceutical committees will be of very great value.

ANTIBIOTICS STIMULATE PLANT GROWTH

Agriculture all over the world, and particularly in those vast areas of the earth where the growing season is very short, may be greatly affected by a new discovery just announced before the annual meeting of the American Institute of Biological Sciences at Cornell University, N.Y., U.S.A.

This discovery is that infinitesimal quantities of certain antibiotics, and particularly terramycin, cause a significant stimulation in plant growth.

Announcement of the finding which opens a new and hardly explored field was made in a paper read by Dr. Louis G. Nickell, head of the phytochemistry laboratory of Chas. Pfizer & Co., Inc., Brooklyn, N.Y., pharmaceutical firm whose scientists discovered terramycin.

Dr. Nickell's paper, entitled "Plant Growth Stimulation by Antibiotics," is the result of experiments he has been conducting since 1948. It is being published in the current issue of the "Proceedings of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine" (Vol. 80, No. 4).

It has been known for some years that minute quantities of antibiotics such as penicillin and terramycin stimulate the growth of poultry, hogs and other animals, bringing them to market weeks sooner, on less feed. Animal feed supplements, containing such antibiotics, have found wide use in recent years, particularly in the U.S.A. Almost nothing was known, however, of the effect these same antibiotics might have on plant growth before Dr. Nickell announced the result of his experiments.

The American scientist experimented mostly with a variety of corn (maize), one of humanity's important foods. Dr. Nickell planted 49 seeds in each of two greenhouse flats. One flat was watered once each day for four days with one litre of tap water containing

five parts terramycin per million parts water, and thereafter as needed. The seeds in the second flat were given the same amount of water, but without any antibiotic. Growing conditions were identical.

After four weeks the corn was removed from the soil, weighed and measured. The average height of the corn given terramycin was 44.32 cm. compared with 35.56 cm. for the untreated corn. The tallest treated plant was 60.96 cm. and the tallest untreated 49.53 cm. The shortest treated plant was 24.77 cm., contrasted with 15.24 cm. for the smallest untreated plant.

Dr. Nickell found that the corn above ground in the flat given terramycin weighed 45 grams wet, while that in the untreated flat weighed 23 grams. Then, he said, plants of both groups were dried separately at 105 deg. C. and weighed again. The treated group weighed 5.1 grams dry, the untreated 2.4 grams. Therefore, Dr. Nickell said, the gains represented were true growth responses and not due to increased water absorption.

The Pfizer scientist found, moreover, that of the 49 sweet corn seeds planted in the treated flat 20 had germinated and formed plants. Of those in the flat not given antibiotic only 12 had germinated.

Tests with sorrel, a plant which resembles spinach, gave similar results. They also showed that when use of terramycin in watering the plants is stopped completely at any early stage, growth gains continue nevertheless. Dr. Nickell reported that 46 days after stoppage of treatment with terramycin a flat of sorrel to which terramycin had previously been given averaged 9.65 cm. higher than the untreated plants of the same age and had more leaves. Growth stimulation of pansies under similar conditions also was reported.

Experiments were also conducted with radish seeds. Two of the more stable forms of penicillin—procaine and diamine—were used, the antibiotic being mixed in the soil at a rate of 10 units of penicillin per gram of soil. The results showed that the radish plants grown in the antibiotic-treated soil averaged from almost twice to almost three times as large as radishes in the untreated flat.

Dr. Nickell's experiments, in addition to the results described above, are also important because they shed new light on the mechanism of antibiotic growth stimulation in animals. Scientists do not know yet why antibiotics stimulate animal growth. One of the most popular theories maintains that the bacterial population of the animal's intestine—the so-called intestinal or microflora—is altered by the antibiotic in some way that favours increased growth. Another theory holds that the antibiotic somehow enables the animals to assimilate more easily certain nutrients necessary for their growth. It is this latter view which seems to gain support from Dr. Nickell's experiments.

—Medical and Pharmaceutical Information Bureau, New York.

MRS. STEPHENS' REMEDY FOR THE STONE.

(Extract from Redwood's "Supplement to the Pharmacopoeia.")

R/ Lime, obtained by the calcination of the shells of eggs and of snails, any quantity. Make it into pills with soap.

R/ Chamomile flowers,
Parsley,
Burdock,

Make into a decoction with water, and add a small quantity of

Alicant soap. (Paris.)

The sum of £5000 was paid by the English Government to Mrs. Joanna Stephens for the above prescription.

The Recording of Prescriptions

Prescription Book, Daily Work Book and Cards

Every pharmaceutical chemist should be able to turn up details of any prescription dispensed in his pharmacy. In some States regulations require records to be kept; elsewhere it is the general practice, based on a sound business principle.

In Victoria, the Pharmacy Regulations make provision for card systems for prescription records. They also require that a Daily Work Book be kept if full details of contract dispensing prescriptions (e.g. P.B.A., P.M.S., Repatriation) are not recorded in the prescription book.

The following notes on the subject, which should be of interest to chemists in all States, have been kindly supplied by Mr. H. A. Braithwaite, Chairman of the Board of Management of the Journal.

A prescription card system requires cards, a filing drawer or cabinet of drawers with an alphabetical index, and a prescription daily work book.

The cards may be small, for copying only one or two prescriptions, or more usefully of, say, the 6-in. by 8-in. size, faint ruled across on both sides, and suitably ruled up and down for usual layout of prescription copies. But these cards should be of a standard system size for availability of cards and filing drawers. A suggested layout for cards is given below.

The prescription work book should be page and line numbered and ruled as below. (Fig. 1.)

In use the first book is called "A" and the first prescription numbered 1A1, the next 1A2, and the first on the next page numbered 2A1. This page, book and line numbering is less confusing and easier to handle than unbroken runs of figures.

The card copies of prescriptions are filed alphabetically in the drawers, and if when required the name is not known, but the number is, the name can be ascertained by reference to the work book. Thus no daily indexing is required.

The daily work book includes a column for numbers, this is designed for entry of repeats in the same prescription work book, and it is usual to always use the original number for repeats.

If cards intended for more than one prescription are used, a check of the file is made before starting a card for a new prescription. When more than one card has been used for one name, it is worth putting those cards into a folder, and it pays to serially number the cards themselves to help keep them in order within the folders. (Fig. 2.)

P.B., P.M.S. and Repat. prescriptions can be numbered from the same prescription work book, and need not be copied at all if the duplicates are filed alphabetically. If this is done separately from private prescriptions copied on cards, a reference to their filing

Book A.

TUESDAY, 1st JULY, 1952.

Page No. 1	Name	Number	Preparation	Quantity	Dispensed by	Price	Checked by
1	Brown, Mrs. A.	—	Mixture	4 oz.	H.A.B.	4/-	E.A.H.
2	Smith Jnr., Mr. J.	—	Pills	30	E.A.H.	5/9	H.A.B.
3	Brown, Miss E. W.	—	Lotion	6 oz.	H.A.B.	5/6	E.A.H.
4	Brown, Miss E. W.	Not dispensed	—	—	—	—	—
5	WEDNESDAY, 2nd JULY, 1952.						
6	Brown, Mrs. A.	1A/1	Mixture	4 oz.	E.A.H.	4/-	H.A.B.
7							

Fig. 1.

BROWN

1A1	Mrs. A. Brown, R/ Pot. Brom. 4 gr. Spt. Amm. Aromat. 15 min. (m. ii) Liq. Ruben. q.s. Aqua ad 4 fl. oz. 4 fl. oz. Sig. One tablespoonful in water as directed.	17.52.	J. Rogers.
1A3	Miss E. W. Brown, R/ Lotio Calamin. A.P.F. 6 fl. oz. Apply often.	17.52.	
1A4	R/ D.H.A. Tab. A.P.C. Codein.		
6/- N.D.	25. Sig. ii at bedtime.		L. Mitchell.

Fig. II.—Note: Details given of brand supplied, prices, etc., and the letters "N.D." indicating "Not dispensed."

*Easy as winking
to dispense*

SIGMA PENICILLIN CREAM & OINTMENT



*Slip Sigma's label OFF
stick your label ON*

For quick, effortless dispensing of a therapeutically dependable product always choose SIGMA Penicillin Cream or Ointment.

- Popular with the medical profession.
- Prescribed for a wide range of infections.

Always keep good stocks of these dependable "CHEMISTS' OWN SERIES" products on hand.

Supplied in: OINTMENT: 1 oz. pure tin tubes. CREAM: $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. pure tin tubes.

From the Penicillin Laboratories of
SIGMA CO. LTD., MELBOURNE
MAKERS OF FINE PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

Interstate Distributors:

The Wholesale Drug Co. Ltd., Sydney
Queensland Druggists Ltd., Brisbane

Southern Drug Co. Ltd., Adelaide
Rumbles Ltd., Perth

A NEW
Organic Mercury Compound
with
A REAL DIFFERENCE

... real chemically
... real practicably

The Thionated Mercurial Diuretic
THIOMERIN

Registered Trade Mark

SODIUM

MERCAPTOMERIN SODIUM

Supplied: As lyophilized powder,
in vials to reconstitute to
10 cc. and 30 cc.



- Minimal Cutaneous Toxicity
- Virtually Free From Cardiac Toxicity
- Safely Administered Subcutaneously
- Efficient ● Gentle
- Pain is Minimal

THIOMERIN

Registered Trade Mark



Registered Trade Mark

is versatile

WYETH INCORPORATED (INCORPORATED IN U.S.A.) 44 BRIDGE STREET, SYDNEY

THIP52

ACTION Thiomerin Sodium is an effective mercurial diuretic. It is so well tolerated locally that it can be used subcutaneously, and by this route it produces diuretic effects similar to those of equivalent doses of other mercurial diuretics administered intravenously. Its action is slower than that of the older mercurial diuretics and may extend over 24 to 36 hours.

Thiomerin is a singularly safe and potent diuretic. The response to subcutaneous injections of Thiomerin is essentially the same as that produced by equivalent doses of other mercurial diuretics administered intravenously. There is evidence to show that Thiomerin produces diuresis by essentially the same mechanism of action as that of the mercurial combined with theophylline and it has likewise been established that there is no material difference with respect to the rate of absorption and excretion of mercury. Premedication with ammonium chloride, 60 to 90 grains a day, will frequently enhance the diuretic effect.

Critical use of Thiomerin in extensive clinical trials shows it to be so well tolerated that it can safely be administered subcutaneously. Moreover, on the basis of animal experimentation it was found to be from 160 to 200 times less toxic upon the heart than the theophyllinated mercurial diuretics, strongly suggesting that Thiomerin is not liable to cause acute cardiac reactions or fatalities. (N.N.R. Addenda to 1951).

drawers can be made by using "L" for life saving, "P" for pensioner and "R" for repatriation as terminal part of the number, e.g. A4/14L, A7/2P and A10/46R. It is suggested that all items on prescriptions be numbered, whether dispensed at that time or not, with

a "not dispensed" entry in the book. Also it has been proved that it is false economy to copy items for similar names on to the same card. Another point in working is to use an indicator coloured card to mark the place in the file when a card is removed for working.

Pharmaceutical Benefits Act

Amendments to the Table

The following amendments—effective from November 1—are notified in Circular No. 25:—

Item No.	
2	Delete all reference to St. Just. Amend basic prices as follows:— 1 in 1000, 1 cc. amp. 6 for 5/- 1 in 1000, 1 fl. oz. bottle . . . 1 for 3/4
3	Add the following:— P.D. & Co. 6, 1, 2 mg per 1 cc. amp. 6 for 7/4
4	Delete all reference to St. Just. Amend basic prices as follows:— 1 in 1000, 1 cc. amp. 6 for 4/- 1 in 1000, 10 cc. amp. 1 for 2/8
10	Delete all references to St. Just. Amend basic prices as follows:— 1/150 gr. per cc., 1 cc. amp. . . 6 for 4/- 1/100 gr. per cc., 1 cc. amp. . . 6 for 4/-
16	Delete all reference to St. Just. Amend basic prices as follows:— 10%, 5 cc. amp. 6 for 6/3 10%, 10 cc. amp. 6 for 8/-
28	5 mg. amp. aqueous—Insert 4 in column 3 and . . . in column 4. 50 mg. amp. aqueous—Insert 1 in column 3 and . . . in column 4.
31	Delete all reference to St. Just. Amend basic price as follows:— 50%, 50 cc. amp. 1 for 6/-
32	Add the following:— P.D. & Co. 10, . . . , 1 gr. hypo. tab. . . . 20 for 2/4
46	Delete all reference to St. Just. Amend basic prices as follows:— 2 cc. amp. 6 for 3/4 5 cc. amp. 6 for 4/- 10 cc. amp. 6 for 5/4
89	Add the following:— P.D. & Co. 6, . . . , 2 cc. amp. 6 for 7/8
94	Add the following:— P.D. & Co. 20, . . . , 1/8 gr. hypo. tab. . . . 20 for 1/7 20, . . . , 1/8 gr. hypo. tab. . . . 20 for 2/- 20, . . . , 1/8 gr. hypo. tab. . . . 20 for 2/3 20, . . . , 1/3 gr. hypo. tab. . . . 20 for 2/3 20, . . . , 1/3 gr. hypo. tab. . . . 20 for 3/4
99	Add the following:— P.D. & Co. 20, . . . , 1 hypo. tab. 20 for 2/3
101	Add the following:— P.D. & Co. 20, . . . , 1 hypo. tab. 20 for 2/7
103	Add the following:— P.D. & Co. 20, . . . , 1 hypo. tab. 20 for 2/5
117	Add the following:— Hamilton. 200, 1, 0.5 G. tab. 500 for 106/8
125A	Amend price as follows:— Enterocid. 0.5 G. tab. 100 for 29/4 Amend basic price as follows:— 0.5 G. tab. 100 for 29/4

Item No.	
130	Add the following:— Pituitrin Obstetrical. 6, . . . , 0.5 cc. amp. 6 for 5/3 6, . . . , 1 cc. amp. 6 for 8/7
149	Delete all reference to St. Just. Amend basic prices as follows:— 2 cc. amp. 6 for 3/4 5 cc. amp. 6 for 4/8 10 cc. amp. 6 for 6/- 50 cc. amp. 1 for 4/-
151	Add the following:— Hamilton. 200, 1, 7½ gr. tab. 500 for 103/4 Amend price as follows:— Paramisan Sodium. 20%, 10 cc. vial 6 for 20/-
155	Amend price as follows:— Acetocid. 7½ gr. tab. 100 for 14/8 Amend basic price as follows:— 7½ gr. tab. 100 for 14/8
165	Amend price as follows:— Disulpha. 0.5 gr. tab. 100 for 21/9 Amend basic price as follows:— 0.5 G. tab. 100 for 21/9
168A	Amend prices as follows:— Neo. Hombroel. 25 mg. per 1 cc. amp. 10 for 56/8 50 mg. per 1 cc. amp. 6 for 62/8 50 mg. per 1 cc., 10 cc. vial . . . 1 for 110/- Intraviron. 25 mg. per 1 cc. amp. 10 for 56/8 50 mg. per 1 cc. amp. 25 for 246/8 B.D.H. 25 mg. per 1 cc. amp. 12 for 66/8 50 mg. per 1 cc. amp. 12 for 120/- Amend basic prices as follows:— 25 mg. per 1 cc. amp. 12 for 66/8 50 mg. per 1 cc. amp. 12 for 120/- 50 mg. per 1 cc., 10 cc. vial . . . 1 for 110/-
181	Amend prices as follows:— Anacodin. 10 γ per 1 cc. amp. 6 for 9/- 20 γ per 1 cc. amp. 6 for 10/- Euhæmon. 20 γ per 1 cc. amp. 6 for 11/- 50 γ per 1 cc. amp. 6 for 16/- Heptamin. 20 γ per 1 cc. amp. 6 for 10/- Amend basic price as follows:— 10 γ per 1 cc. amp. 6 for 9/-

A letter (29/10/52) just to hand from the Director-General of Health advises that the following proprietaries have been added to the list:—

Amendment No. 23.

Procillin A.S.	131A
Drug Houses of Australia Ltd.	
Triazol	166
Abbott Laboratories Pty. Ltd.	

Amendment No. 24.

Tuscodin	37A
Knoll.	

Amendment No. 25.

Pituitrin	130
Obstetrical.	
Parke, Davis and Co. Ltd.	

The Apothecary in Literature

By A. W. Billitzer.

Gleaming glass and steel counters. Attractive displays of cosmetics, a weighing machine. Outside, too, there is glass, and behind it attention-arresting arrangements of many wares obtainable within. Wherever Western standards prevail these are now the characteristic of "the chemist's." Time was when there was no glass except little panes set in lead, and even that was a luxury. No attractive wrappers and all the rest. Still, those were the beginnings of a profession that was to attain to prominence and standing. Those who would like to enquire about the appearance and contents of "ye old Apothecarie's shoppe" have little that would give an idea by way of illustration. A few paintings perhaps, but here the man is found to be much more to the fore than his surroundings. All we can learn in many cases is that he used a mortar, and even this was depicted by the artist often only as a "rebus" to indicate the trade represented.

Another source, though not as convenient and easily accessible, is the works of writers. Tucked away in a welter of kings and pilgrims, warriors and humble folk, word pictures can be found which describe, sometimes in surprisingly great detail, what the artist of the same period had omitted from his painting as unimportant.

And in His Needy Shop . . .

It can be assumed that, despite the setting of the play at Milan, Shakespeare took an Elizabethan apothecary's shop as model where Romeo obtains "such soon-speeding gear as will disperse itself through all the veins." It was a poverty-stricken little hole crowded with stuffed skins that dangled from the ceiling, a tortoise and alligator among them. Only poetic licence or more likely the developing plot cause the occupant to appear in "tattered weeds" so that he would be receptive to the bribe offered him. But we are permitted to cast a glance around at "a beggarly account of empty boxes" on the shelves interspersed with "remnants of packing thread and old cakes of roses." Even then, it would seem, this sort of disorder together with the smell from "musty seeds" pervading the room was not in the common run of things. A tidy and clean shop was, however, in the first place considered to be a sign of prosperity of the owner, but certainly not necessarily indicative of offering remedies more efficient than obtainable elsewhere. Superstition had at least as much part in compounding as well-founded knowledge. The best example is the witch's incantation in "Macbeth." To pick just one instance, the toad, the first ingredient, was then considered to be particularly poisonous. Even now the belief is still held in some parts of the Alps that warts are caused by touching one. Many years later this "poison" was investigated analytically, and one of the constituents of the skin secretion of the toad received the name bufotenin, which is an indol derivative. Indol as such forms indigo on oxidation, and this dye could at no time be considered dangerous. Of course, a slight modification of the molecule might easily change this, it could be argued. Folk superstitions die hard, and the case is recorded of an Italian woman who wanted to get rid of her ailing husband suffering from dropsy. So she soaked a toad in wine, and gave the liquid to him as a drink. Soon she saw him cured from his complaint, perhaps greatly to her disappointment. This supports the claim that there is a principle in toad's skin secretion acting similar to digitalis, an accepted remedy for dropsy depending on heart disease.

One implement lacking in the dispensary of Shakespeare's time seems to have been a means to measure time. The incantation in "Macbeth" has been taken to represent a mode of timing much used in those days

instead of the even then comparatively cheap hour glass. Frequently also the Pater noster and Ave were used for the same purpose. The moon provided a somewhat more reliable clock over longer periods involved in the maceration of plants.

In Chaucer's time alchemy was practised by all and sundry, even canons, according to the Canon's Yeoman's tale. Not that he had only unworthy people as examples in former days. St. Dunstan studied magic and alchemy in his cell when he had withdrawn to expiate his former wild life. Raymond Lull, too, was a monk who lived about four centuries later, perpetuating his own name in the book *Libilli aliquot chemici*. He was a contemporary of Roger Bacon, to whom the discovery of gunpowder has been ascribed. The last, being a true alchemist, also sought the elixir of life. Believing mercury to be one of the mineral roots of existence, he took it to be the true philosopher's stone! His panacea for prolonging life was—nitre of which he took three grains every day in the belief that it counteracted the "drying action of the outer air" which exhausted the body. Perhaps Chaucer had been badly served by a dishonest member of this brotherhood, and satyrised them as a revenge. That even in the great author's day the science of alchemy did not have a good name is shown in an act making it a felony "to multiply gold and silver above the art of multiplication."

There is just one thing still to be seen today in a modern chemist's shop that might hark back to those times when metallic bodies were described by the names of the planets under whose influence they were supposed to be. This survives in the term mercury. Colours were also assigned to the metals, such as yellow to gold, which is ruled by the sun, or red to iron, ruled by Mars. It is thought that the large glass containers filled with coloured liquids still used as a trade sign derive from these associations.

Another satire, representing conditions in France and Spain in the middle of the 17th century, is *Le Sage's Gil Blas*. The hero's master, Doctor Sangrado, is thought to be a caricature of the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Paris during that time. *Gil Blas*, the ingenu, remarks about his master's cures, "I do not know how it happened, but all our patients died." Nor could the apprentice learn much from Doctor Sangrado, who pumped all sufferers full of water and bled them at the same time. His numerous tirades against his competitors throw some light on the practices of the day. We gather that medicines containing mercury or sulphur were much used, as also antimony. Many plants were employed as specific remedies. Much of this knowledge had been handed down from Roman and even Greek times to become quite common property. In Chaucer's Nun's Priest's tale, for instance, quite a number of herbs are mentioned by a housewife who lends a hand, there being "in this town no apothecary." She uses centaury as a tonic, elder as a sudorific, and ivy as laxative and liver stimulant. The elder is also mentioned several times by Shakespeare, who makes reference to the belief that Judas hanged himself on an elder tree.

Not Quite So Long Ago.

In more modern times Dickens has supplied at least two examples that can be taken to represent contemporary figures of his day. If it is kept in mind that Furniss' illustrations of the works are meant to mirror the bizarreness so characteristic of Dickens, then the apothecary in the "Haunted Man" is true to type too. "Who that has seen him . . . upon a winter night . . . motionless among a crowd of spectral shapes . . .

alone, surrounded by his drugs and instruments." And still the alchemistic flavour persists when we read the "reflections of glass vessels on the wall tremble like things that know his power to uncombine them, to give back their component parts to fire and vapour."

Though of a rather humorous aspect, the swearing in of Mr. Groffin as juror in the case of "Bardell versus Pickwick" supplies an interesting sidelight. Being refused exemption from this service, he resigns himself, though not without the rather startling statement that "there will be murder before the trial is over." It is not recorded whether the judge, a rather irritable and peremptory person, thought the remark aimed at him. In reality it is only his concern for the helpless customers that prompts Mr. Groffin. There is only an errand boy in charge at the shop whose "prevailing impression is that Epsom salts means oxalic acid, and syrup of senna, laudanum." Apart from this byplay, which was probably meant as a comic relief, the fact emerges that in Dickens' time apothecaries were still liable to jury service.

But for a really rollicking account of the goings on when a junior assistant of those days was left to his own devices we are indebted to Marryat's "Japhet in Search of a Father." While the owner of the shop is away Japhet and his companion decide to do some of their own dispensing and so obtain pocket money. First they sell a sore throat remedy labelled "haustus statim sumendus" to a bewildered, simple customer. Asked to explain these obscure instructions, he translates: haustus, rub in; statim, on the throat; sumendus, with the palm of the hand. This startling rendering is partly due to a sudden qualm that the green, blue and white liquids he had mixed might be safer when used externally! The selling of a "blister plaister" to a tipsy Irish labourer for half as much as the shop price, which brings them 6d., nearly ends in disaster. In the patient's own words "it quite killed him before the cure leaving him as raw as a turnip." However, the apothecary to whom this tirade is addressed a few days later is certain "that nothing is sold in the shop without his knowledge." And the painfully cured customer, who cannot see the pseudo apothecaries hiding behind the door, is convinced in the end that the internal treatment he himself had prescribed for his "thumbago" whisky, might have confused his memory as to the shop.

... And About His Shelves ...

There were, of course, numerous remedies from the plant kingdom whose action, if understood at all when first used, is now entirely enigmatic. Still, *lactuca virosa* was an official member of the Austrian Pharmacopoeia till comparatively recent time as a cough remedy. In a few cases occurring in Shakespeare, however, serious controversies have been based on the references made in some plays. All of them were concerned with poisons. The "cursed hebenon" that slew Hamlet's father provoked such an investigation, for instance. The word means ebony coloured, and could apply to any liquid. Usually henbane was taken to be its source. But hyoscyne is comparatively weak, and could not have the instantaneous effect Shakespeare describes, especially not when applied to the ear cavity. The same could be said of hemlock. The last was a well-known poison from very early days, but again it could not have acted in the swift way mentioned even if the ear drum had been ruptured. Another suggestion put forward is that it was essential oil of tobacco. The reasoning here is that hebenon might be a metathesis of henebone, i.e. henbane, and tobacco was then known as *hebenone* of Peru. It would appear that no experiments have been carried out to determine whether such a "leprous distilment" is as quick acting when dropped into the ear. The final answer, if this it is, was obtained from the observation that hebenon, heben or hebena is also mentioned by other writers. Spenser lets Cupid lay aside "his deadly heben bow,"

and Marlowe wrote of the juice of hebon. So all probably meant the same—tree. Otherwise a bow could not have been made from it. It has therefore been assumed that the poison was obtained from the yew tree. Not only is its name much like heben in most of the northern languages, but also the effects of yew poisoning are similar to those described. The post mortem appearance resembles snake bite poisoning.

There is much less detail available about the liquid obtained by Romeo, which, even "if you had the strength of 20 men, it would despatch you straight." A guess has been hazarded that it might have been aconite.

Of a much less obnoxious nature are some items mentioned by Chaucer. In his *Canterbury Tales* we find a cook who powders marchant tart and garlingale. The former ingredient is probably a sort of baking powder of now unknown composition. Garlingale was a much-used aromatic condiment used as a spice in the Middle Ages. An Arabic medical man mentions it already in the ninth century as being used in medicine. In the Miller's tale details are given of a beau's preparations to make himself presentable. He chewed liquorice and "grains of paradise." The last was a favourite spice in early times having a strong aromatic taste derived from an essential oil. To make quite sure the swain also places "true love" under his tongue. This was a spiced sweetmeat shaped like a lover's knot.

Even a first aid kit is mentioned in the *Comedy of Errors*. It is of particular interest since it is to be used on a sailing vessel. The items are: the oil, the balsamum and aqua vitae. At first sight this would appear a rather poor equipment. But especially "the oil" must have been one of the many panaceas of the time "for purging the body of bile and humour." Balsams there were galore for "wind and pain," and brandy is still in favour as a restorative. And suppose the voyagers fortified themselves too thoroughly with the last, would they have known of a remedy? It could never have come to that, since they knew "five or six almonds taken fasting keep a man from being drunk." It is not stated whether the antidote was to be taken salted or devilled.

But we are indebted to a very early author, Dioscorides, referred to in the 17th century as outstanding authority, for a recipe that cures bruises. A reference to *Polygonatum angulosum*, the remedy in question, reads "the roots of Solomon's seal stamped while fresh and green and applied, taketh away in one night, or two at the most, any bruises or blew spots gotten by falls, or woman's wilfulness in stumbling upon their haste husband's fists or such like."

ANALYSIS OF THE FEMALE OF THE SPECIES

(A reply to the analyst, whose finding was published on p. 642 "A.J.P." July, 1952.)

Thank you, Mr. Analyst, for your cruel dissection. Sorry we poor women fall so far below perfection. We had hoped our frailties might escape detection. Alas! We had not reckoned with your acute perception. But since you have chosen of your own election To dissect and ruthlessly expose our imperfection, We humbly beg to offer here just a mere suggestion Which, as you must all agree, is beyond correction. When the good God turned His thoughts unto man's direction, And made of him a creature free to make his own selection, He found, although His work was good, it somehow lacked perfection, And the lassies were the product of His more mature reflection.

(Sgd.) "THE LASSIES."

The Women Pharmacists' Page

Correspondent: Miss A. K. Anderson.

It is with very great pleasure that I have heard that the Women Pharmacists of South Australia are starting an Association, and hope to have their first meeting in November. Congratulations and best wishes, South Australia. It is now possible, for the first time, all Australian States will be represented at the P.A.A.N.Z. conference in Sydney in August, 1953.

WOMEN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

At the September meeting of the Association the guest speaker was Dr. Jean White, who had been a flying doctor in Queensland for some years.

Dr. White spoke of her work whilst stationed at Cloncurry and Normanton, and one could not help feeling that the Flying Doctor Service has given to the settlers outback a great sense of security, also freedom from worry over illness, which before the advent of the pedal wireless must have been considerable.

Dr. White also praised the work of the aborigines in helping the service in various ways.

Question time followed the lecture, and members of the audience asked various questions which Dr. White answered very graciously.

In thanking Dr. White, Miss MacGillivray, the Hon. Treasurer, asked her to accept a cheque for £32/11/-, for the Flying Doctor Service, this amount being our annual donation and subscription to this very worthy service.

In responding, Dr. White thanked members for their support to the Flying Doctor Service, and for asking her to be guest speaker and to accept the cheque.

Supper was then served to a large number of members in the Museum.

Our meeting on October 2, was held at the Pharmacy College, when a very large number of members were present to hear a most interesting talk given by Mrs. R. G. Casey on "Famous Women I Have Met."

As Mrs. Casey has travelled extensively with her husband, the Minister of External Affairs, and lived in many countries, she has had opportunities of meeting famous people who are known by name throughout the world.

Mrs. Casey said women in India were probably leading the world, at the present time, in success in new fields of service. India is the only country to appoint women to such high offices as ambassadors and cabinet ministers. Rajkumari Armit Kaur, beautiful and highly educated, was formerly secretary to Mr. Gandhi, and now is Minister for Health in the Dominion of India.

Mrs. Casey then spoke of Mrs. Roosevelt, one of the great women of the world, who has overcome a very great natural shyness to become a national figure, and one loved in her own country for the work she has done there, particularly in her support for the improvement of conditions for the negroes; Lady Astor, who, as well as being an American, was the first woman to become a Member of Parliament in the House of Commons; Lady Mountbatten, one of the most capable women of our time, as well as being one of the most charming; Lady Reading, who, at the beginning of the war, organised the Women's Voluntary Services in England, and is still a leading figure in that organisation; Jean Begg, a New Zealander, who has accomplished seemingly impossible things as an international Y.W.C.A. worker.

Mrs. Casey spoke of the Queen and Princess Margaret, both of whom she has known since they were

small girls, The Queen Mother, Queen Elizabeth, and Queen Mary, all who have set such a wonderful example in their home and public life.

In conclusion, Mrs. Casey said women were coming more and more into public life everywhere, though, unfortunately, not so much so in Australia, possibly because we are too far away from the rest of the world. Australian women should make people realise the need for women in public bodies.

In reply to many questions from members, Mrs. Casey spoke of numerous other well-known people.

Mrs. Pennicott, on behalf of all those present, thanked Mrs. Casey for one of the most interesting talks we have had this year, and expressed the hope that she would be our guest speaker again on some future occasion. Supper was then served in the Museum.

Our next meeting will be on November 6, when Miss Vera Kelly will be the guest speaker.

THE ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS OF QUEENSLAND

Do pharmacists have time for outside interests?

Your answer would have been an emphatic yes on August 21, when the Queensland Women Pharmacists met for their general meeting.

I wish you could have been with us that night at the Lyceum Club. We had set aside August as a hobbies, arts and crafts night. The response to our idea was delightful to the eye.

What could have been a display from two gardens, floral and vegetable, was the effort of our President. Many a fine day must be spent in the sunshine to produce the beautiful carnations and other flowers which were such a riot of colour on the table. Her vegetables were specimens to make any gardener happy.

Pottery is the relaxation of another of our members, and a very artistic centre piece was her display in arts and crafts.

A comprehensive range of woven articles was displayed, and the fundamentals of weaving were explained by Miss Blanshard, the work of whom we were admiring.

Fine needlework, knitting and cookery will always be firm favourites with women, and the samples displayed at our evening showed that women pharmacists are no exception.

Yes, we do have time for outside interests!

THE ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

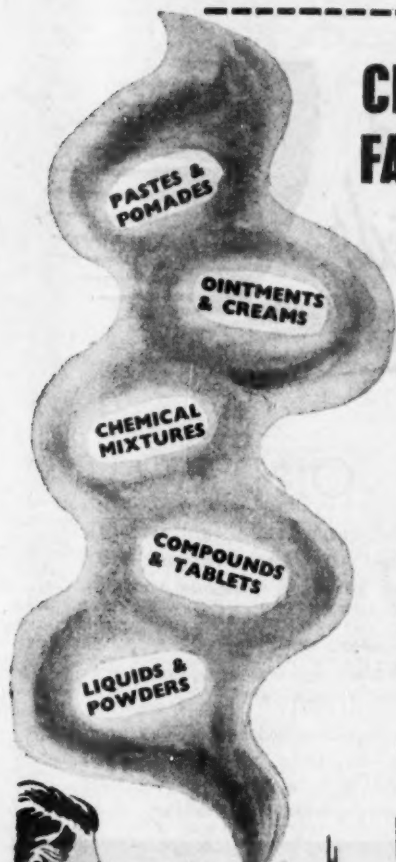
The nineteenth annual meeting was held at "Science House," on September 10, at 8 p.m.

The President, Mrs. R. Bennet, opened the meeting, and extended a welcome to those present. It was most unfortunate that the meeting night coincided with that of a ball which was attended by many of our members. We were pleased, however, to see Mrs. Shineberg and Mrs. Mathieson, who attended part of the meeting before going to the ball.

An apology was received from Miss Ada Belinfante from "M.S. Manooora," en route to Perth. This meeting was one of the very few missed by Miss Belinfante since the Association was formed. Numbers of other apologies were received also.

After the reading of the reports by the Secretary and Social Secretary, and the presentation of the financial statement by the Treasurer, the President gave a talk on the part an association, such as ours, plays in pharmacy.

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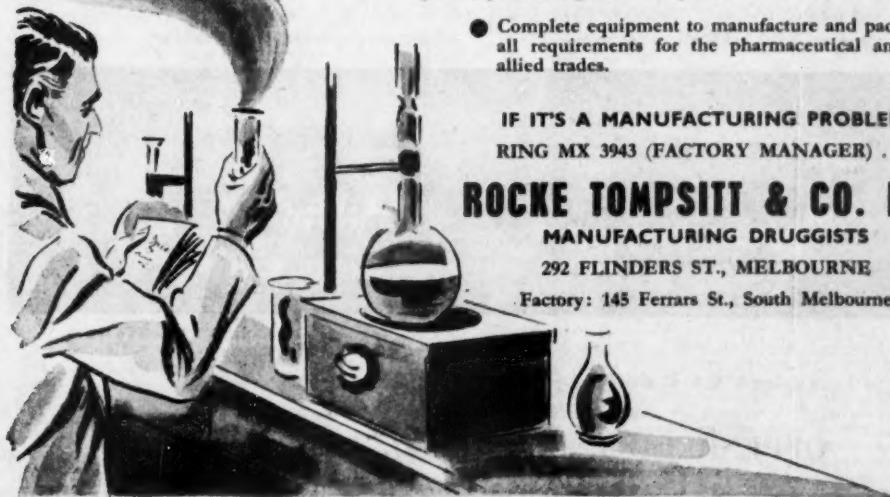
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The committee was sorry to lose several of its members. The Social Secretary, Miss Sally Mackay, has resigned after two years' most valuable service. Miss E. Wunsch, who leaves for England in December, has relinquished her position as a Vice-President.

We are most pleased to welcome again as our President, Mrs. Dorothy Fairfax, and also two new committee members, Miss Myra Polson and Mrs. Rothilde Perriam.

The office-bearers for 1952-53 are:—

President: Mrs. D. Fairfax.

Vice-Presidents: Mrs. R. Bennet and Mrs. M. Ibbotson.

Treasurer: Miss M. Sweeney.

Secretary: Miss T. J. Latham.

Social Secretary: Miss Polson.

Committee: Misses P. Jones and E. Palmi, and Mrs. R. Perriam.

Miss J. Latham and Miss M. Sweeney were nominated to represent the Association on a sub-committee for P.A.A.N.Z. conference.

Wednesday, November 12, is the date set down for the next meeting at Science House.

Please keep in mind the Annual Xmas Party on Saturday, December 6, at 3 p.m., at "Chiswick Gardens," 65 Ocean street, Woolahra.

THE ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS OF TASMANIA

The third annual meeting of the Tasmanian Women Pharmacists was held at the Business & Professional Womens' Club Rooms, Hobart, on July 23, at 9 p.m. Miss Hurst was in the chair, and Misses Andrews, Anderson, Tribolet and Williams, and Mrs. Ross and Mrs. Dawson were present.

The Treasurer, Miss M. Andrews, presented the Treasurer's report.

The election of office-bearers took place, and the resigning officers did not stand for re-election, as it is the policy of the Association to change the office-bearers annually, with the exception of the Treasurer. The office-bearers elected are:—

President: Miss Marjorie Williams.

Vice-Presidents: Miss Hurst and Mrs. Ross.

Secretary: Mrs. Dawson.

Committee: Miss M. Tribolet, Mrs. Hawkes, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Wolinzer and Miss Atkinson.

It was recorded that a letter had been received from Miss Latham, Secretary of N.S.W. Women Pharmacists, by Miss Andrews, congratulating her on her election to the Women's Council.

The Secretary reported that a beaten silver spoon had been chosen and sent as a suitable gift to Miss Peggy Butcher (the first Hon. Sec. of A.W.P.T.), now in England, and whose marriage to Mr. Oliver Heyward took place on September 27.

Miss Andrews, who is our representative on the Chemists' Wages Board, hopes to clarify the position at the next meeting, regarding rates of pay for relieving pharmacists. At present there is no fixed rate in Tasmania, and the wage is determined by the employer, with the result that it varies greatly. Also there is no ruling as regards travelling and boarding allowance, so it is hoped that this will be determined at the same time. We are also hoping to get equal pay for women pharmacists in this State.

As no guest speaker was available for the August meeting, it was a more social occasion. Miss Williams was in the chair, and conducted a quiz, during which members submitted questions pertaining to pharmacy.

A presentation was made to Mrs. Bennet (Hon. Sec., 1951-52), congratulating her on the birth of a daughter on July 30.

The conversation drifted on to general topics, and supper was served.

THE WOMEN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The 15th annual dinner of the Association was held at the Hotel Adelphi on September 15.

The President, Mrs. H. S. Lucraft, welcomed the Minister for Health, Dame Florence Cardell Oliver, and Mrs. H. D. Fitch, wife of the President of the Pharmaceutical Council, who were our guests of honour on this occasion.

The tables were tastefully decorated in the Association colours of blue, red and gold, and the record attendance of forty-three members, many of them foundation members, was very gratifying to the President and Committee.

We were particularly happy to have Miss Ada Belinfante, who is holidaying here with us, and a welcome was extended to Mrs. Howlett, from Victoria.

During the evening the Badge of the Association was presented to Miss Teresa Murphy, who qualified recently.

A visit to the Observatory was arranged for the meeting to be held on October 30.

COMPETITION IN THE PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES

By Elliott and Elliott.

Competition is that which keeps us all "on our toes"; this is to a large extent good for all of us. Like all good things, it can be overdone; often it is overdone, and then it results in waste and distress. We often hear that competition pays. Pays whom? There is one line where it does not pay, namely the making of the country's currency. Competition in this line would be a disaster of the first magnitude. There are some public services where it does not pay—the postal services, the gas and water supplies, and so on. But does it pay in pharmacy?

Competition in prices can be so drastic where there are no price controls that it puts most people "out of business." This would be a disservice to the public, in the end. This is because—

- (1) A price-cutting war among retail pharmacists, in competition with the big stores, puts out of business the small man, because he has not the capital to carry on.

Once the small man has gone, the giants are likely to declare war on each other. It is then the survival of the "fittest"—being those with the largest capital.

Once a stage is reached where one concern gains the victory, that organisation rapidly puts prices back to where they were.

The public did gain something at the start, but later, as the small people went out of business, the consumer began to find that the big people were gaining a monopoly. But their stores were situated only in central places, and customers were expected to travel a long way to these central stores.

This is not service, but inconvenience to the public.

- (2) If pharmacists have to stay in business in a price-cutting war, they must buy cheaper and cheaper products in order to get a decent profit. This hands back the price cutting to the wholesaler and the manufacturer.

As all price cutters start with reducing the retail prices of well-advertised and generally good lines, they end up with selling cheap products that are usually no credit either to the maker or the seller. They cannot do otherwise because they must make some profit if they have to stay in business.

But do our customers want quality products or cheap ones? In by far the majority of cases they are willing to pay "that little extra" which will ensure a reliable article. Let us maintain the quality of all our products, and fix their retail prices so that all may benefit.

The Social Sciences

Fellowship Lectures in South Australia—Continued

LECTURE 3—RUMOUR.

Outline.—1. Rumour as an interesting example of interpersonal communication. Its origin in "congenial situations," and its similarity to other social processes such as legends. A lecture-room demonstration of how distortion occurs in interpersonal communications.

2. The nature of the distortions that occur in rumour-spreading: Dramatisation, authentication, levelling, sharpening, assimilation.

3. Why rumours grow and spread. What they tell us about their subject and about the society in which they occur.

4. The relation of rumour to prejudices and of both to the basic notion of perception. The inevitability of prejudice.

Before proceeding to consider and discuss rumours, how they come into being and their passing on, it is necessary to deal with the important facets of "institutional situation" and "congenial institution." Human beings meet or commune (or converse in) various types of situations and relationships.

An "institutional situation" is one in which the conduct of those gathered together is regulated by custom or tradition, as in attendance at church. This type of situation has now a much less direct bearing upon the individual than it had years ago, say, in the Victorian era, which included quite rigid codes of etiquette or appropriate conduct in all sorts of gatherings of both a few and many people.

In an institutional situation a leader is appointed, e.g., to conduct a general meeting, to give a lecture, etc.

A "congenial situation" is one which brings about the contact of two, three, four, or similar small numbers of people to satisfy the interests or needs of the moment.

Such situations are not highly regularised, as with casual meetings on market days, but become semi-institutionalised in the case of groups talking after a lecture, and the marked tendency of persons of a like interest (pharmacists) to get together and talk "shop."

From the aspect of the social psychologist the important aspect of a congenial situation is the fact that the participants compete actively one with the other for leadership in a social sense. This bid for leadership is not in the material sense, but a bid for leadership of the situation in competition with other members of the group. There is no permanent leader; if one arises, then the congenial situation disappears and it becomes an institutional situation.

Rumour originates in congenial situations. It is notoriously difficult to pin down the origin of a rumour because it essentially is of a fugitive pattern, or nature, and is constantly subject to change.

Rumour is usually associated with institutional situations and is then nearly always of an unfavourable nature. It may be defined as a "false report circulated orally," but can finish up in a pictorial or printed form.

Rumour, when associated with persons, is not necessarily injurious and detrimental to the individual concerned. Rumour is not synonymous with scandal, which is always associated with persons and always of a derogatory character.

A "legend" is a type of rumour which is of a complimentary nature associated with the person named in the report. The lecturer quoted examples of legends regarding a well-loved Professor of The University of Adelaide, and by this means demonstrated clearly his meaning regarding the two types of situations and the two types of report.

NOTE: Older pharmacists will realise that they, and their pharmacy, are subjected to all three—rumour, scandal and legend.

Before going on to explain the causes of rumours being false, the lecturer invited his audience to participate in an experiment in viewing two pictures. Each picture was shown to an individual member. He then handed the picture back to the lecturer and quietly told another member what he had seen.

The second person told a third. This system continued until the fifth member quietly told the lecturer the story as it had reached him after being passed on by four others.

The lecturer then introduced the results of the experiment into his exposition of the reasons for false rumours.

Why is a rumour a false report? Simply because of the mental sets or attitudes which come between the stimulus and the response (S → R) creating a distortion of the original fact.

Distortions take several forms:—

1. Dramatisation is necessarily introduced, otherwise a rumour lacks interest and appeal. Common additions are increasing the element of suspense, introducing new characters and the heightening of the effect upon the human feelings. All of these promote circulation of a rumour and popularity of the teller of the tale.

2. Authenticity is very quickly increased. Introductory phrases such as "It is reported that," or "It is believed that," are soon dropped, and the "fact" acquires greater "reliability."

This dropping of the preface, "I heard that," etc., both keeps the story alive and gives the teller leadership in the conversation.

3. The Levelling Process is the reduction of an originally elaborate rumour to a concise or brief form which is not easily forgotten. Obviously the discarding of details is prone to increase distortion of the original tale.

Once a rumour is reduced to the practical minimum there is less to remember, and consequently a lesser chance of distortion. It can often then be called a slogan.

This factor is the driving force behind political and other leaders in their search for catch phrases or slogans for use as propagandists, famous examples being "a place in the sun" (for Italy), and "Lebensraum" (for Germany).

This levelling is true in all aspects of knowledge. It is very necessary to realise that something learnt is never really forgotten. It may not readily come to mind, but there is an irreducible minimum which seems to remain for good.

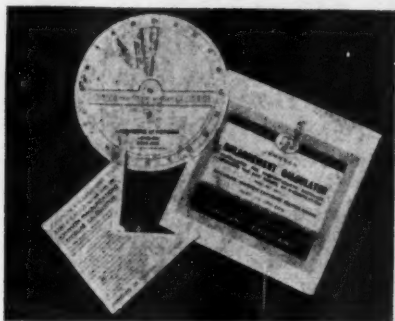
NOTE: "Your chemist is more than a merchant" is too long. Advertisers often use a rumour to start a slogan, and let repetition reduce it to a more practical and telling phrase.

4. Sharpening is the reciprocal or alternative of levelling in which only the more important details are retained. It is selective perception or the retention and reporting of a limited number of details. N.B. Examples are (1) exaggeration of numbers or of sizes; (2) the use of stereotyped phrases (as in the demonstration of the pictures earlier in the evening when one member used the word "gangster"); (3) by giving (as is often the case) an explanation in another form.

5. Assimilation is what takes place when a repeater of a rumour adds on something of his own and

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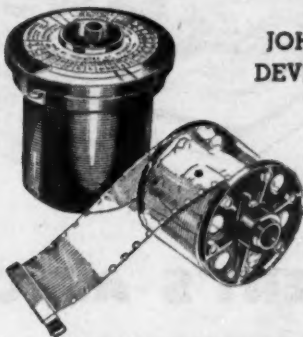
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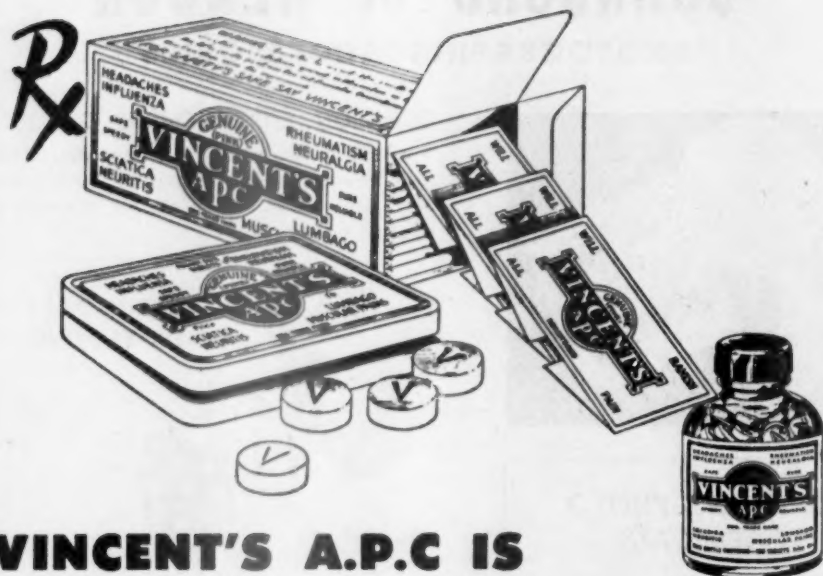


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thus increases the falseness of the rumour. Additions usually come from fear, but may come from the teller's own sentiments or their own habits. What exists in the perceiver's mind very largely determines what is assimilated and what is passed on to another person.

NOTE: How true all this is of travellers' tales!

Why do rumours spread?

Rumours spread mainly because of three factors: (a) Self interest, (b) instability of affairs, and (c) conservatism.

Self interest is the natural bid of the individual to capture the interest of others in a casual meeting. This bid for leadership is common to all types of communication, and in congenial situations is a bid for conversational or social leadership.

Instability of affairs is the situation caused by conflicting reports upon some matter of importance. This ambiguity, or lack of definite knowledge, creates rumours. The individual who repeats a rumour obtains considerable release from the tension caused by the conflicting reports, more particularly, if the telling enables him to blame somebody else and so pass on the responsibility.

The natural conservatism of human beings is the cause of the spreading of most scandal rumours. There is an innate resistance in human nature to the stranger or the interloper, and such arrivals have to make good and possibly survive a series of rumours until such time as greater knowledge kills them. Uncertain figures, etc., are also the basis for rumours, e.g., a woman who may live alone on a hill, and is often unseen, is referred to as that old witch who lives alone on the hill.

In conclusion, it must be realised that any person who becomes prominent in any walk of society is always the subject of rumours.

Rumours of this type may be indicative of both the status of the person concerned and the nature of the society from which the teller comes or belongs.

NON-PROPRIETARY NAMES

The Sub-Committee on Non-Proprietary Names of the Expert W.H.O. Committee on the International Pharmacopoeia has issued the following list of names, which it is suggested should be adopted by national organisations:—

Latin International Name	English Chemical Name or Description
Acediasulfonium	4:4'-carboxymethylamino-diphenylsulfone
Natricum	
Adrenalonum	o-3:4-dihydroxyphenyl- β -methylaminoethanone
Aethoxazorusotidum	monomorpholyethyrlutostide
Alcoholum	
Benzylicum	phenylcarbinol
Allocepreldum	sodium cuproallylthioureidobenzoate
Natricum	
Allomethadionum	3-allyl-5-methylloxazolidine-2:4-dione
Alphameprodinum	α -propionoxy-4-phenyl-1-methyl-3-ethylpiperidine
Alphaprodinum	1:3-dimethyl-4-phenyl-4-propionoxypiperidine
Aminoacridinum	9-aminoacridine
Aminoacetylus	
Nitras	nitrate ester of aminoethanol
Amobarbitalum	5-ethyl-5-(3'-methylbutyl) barbituric acid
Aprobarbitalum	allylisopropylbarbituric acid
Azamethonil	3-methyl-3-azapentane-1:5-bis(ethylmethylammonium) bromide
Bromidum	
Betameprodinum	β -propionoxy-4-phenyl-1-methyl-3-ethylpiperidine
Benzododecinum	dimethylbenzylododecylammonium
Bromisovalum	α -bromoisovalerylcarbamide

Calcii Pantothenas	calcium salt of N-[1:3-dihydroxy-2-dimethylbutyl] β -alanine
Cetrimonium	cetyltrimethylammonium
Cetylpyridinii	
Chloridum	
Cholinii Gluconas	2-(hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium d-gluconate
Dienoestrolum	<i>p,p'</i> -dihydroxy-3:4-diphenyl-hexadiene-2:4
Dihydrotachysterolum	
Diiodohydroxyquinolinum	8-hydroxy-5:7-diiodoquinoline
Dimethiodalum	sodium diiodomethanesulfonate
Natricum	
Dimethyltubocurarinii Chloridum	
Diprophyllinum	dihydroxypropyltheophylline
Hexachlorophenum	di-(2-hydroxy-3:5:6-trichlorophenyl)-methane
Hydroxypyridini	tartrate ester of 3-hydroxypyridine
Tartras	
Iodetrylum	ethyl diiodostearate
Isoniazidum	(isonicotinic acid hydrazide)
Isoniazid (English)	isonicotinyl hydrazide
Isoniazid (French)	hydrazide de l'acide isonicotinique
Isomethadonum	1:8-dimethylamino-4:4-diphenyl-5-ethyl-3-hexanone
Maleylsulfathiazolum	maleyl- <i>p</i> -aminophenylsulfonamidothiazole
Medrylamium	β -dimethylaminoethyl- <i>p</i> -methoxy-benzhydryl ether
Merbrominum	sodium salt of 2:7-dibromo-4-hydroxymercurifluoresceine
Mesulfenum	2:6-dimethylthianthrene
Methaphenilenum	<i>N,N</i> -dimethyl- <i>N</i> -phenyl- <i>N</i> -(2-thienylmethyl) ethylenediamine
Methexaminum	1:3-dimethylamylamine
Methylthiouracilum	4-methyl-2-thiouracil
Monoaethanolaminii	
Oleas	
Natrii Gentisas	sodium 5-hydroxysalicylate
Noramidopyridinii	sodium methylaminophenyl-dimethylpyrazolone methanesulfonate
Natricus	
Parathiazinum	pyrrolidine-ethylphenothiazine
Phenododecinum	dodecylmethyl-2-phenoxy-ethylammonium
Phthalylsulfathiazolum	(α -carboxybenzoyl)- <i>p</i> -aminophenylsulfonamidothiazole
Proflavinum	3:6-diaminoacridine
Propamidinum	α , ω -(4:4'-diaminodiphenoxy) propane
Propiodonum	propyl-3:5-diiodo-4-pyridone acetate
Propyphenazonum	1-phenyl-2:3-dimethyl-4-isopropyl-5-pyrazolone
Pyrimethaminum	2:4-diamino-5- <i>p</i> -chlorophenyl-6-ethylpyrimidine
Salacetamidum	<i>N</i> -acetylsalicylamide
Salazosulfamidum	<i>p</i> -sulfonamidophenylazosalicylic acid
Salazosulfapyridinum	4-(2-pyridylamidodisulfonyl) 3-carboxy-4'-oxazobenzene
Salazosulfathiazolum	<i>p</i> -aminophenylsulfonamidothiazole-azosalicylic acid
Stearylsulfamidum	stearylsulfanilamide
Sulfadiazolum	sodium <i>N</i> -acetyl-2-sulfamyl-4:4'-diphenyl sulfone
Natricum	
Sulfafurazolum	5- <i>p</i> -aminophenyl sulfonamido-3:4-dimethylisoxazole
Synephrinum	(\pm)methylaminomethyl-(4-hydroxyphenyl) carbinol
Thiazosulfonium	2:4'-diaminothiazolylphenylsulfone
Vanydisulfamidum	4'-oxy-5'-methoxy-1-benzylidenebis-(aminophenylsulfonamide)

Photography Section

FOR THE CHEMIST
WITH A



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CAMERA

Your Hobby and the Camera.

Picture taking complements all other hobbies. For instance, an amateur sailor likes pictures of boats. A railroad fan will rave over a picture of a train.

Model builders find photography a fascinating adjunct to their hobby. They can keep a picture record of the model's progress which helps in producing others. Also they can incorporate the finished model in a lifelike scene in a photograph.

Many hobbyists find photos make possible collections which never could be assembled without a camera. Let's consider people keen on early Australian buildings. They can't buy up the buildings. So the "collector" takes pictures of the features in which he is particularly interested. Then he stores them in his photo album.

Nature lovers, too, find added fascination in picturing objects in which they are interested. Flower fanciers can make enlargements of close-ups of shots to enhance the beauty of a rose or other bloom. Even a simple folding camera may be connected to a microscope for making photomicrographs.

Then there's the fellow who breeds show dogs and keeps a pictorial record of their growth. This helps him select potential champions in the puppy stage.

Hobby Snapshots.

A picture-taking hobby frequently can be combined with other hobbies. When this is done, the two hobbies usually are enjoyed much more than they would be individually.

Many camera fans use their photography equipment in conjunction with their organised club and hobby groups. In the winter sporting clubs take many pictures of their outdoor activities. These pictures then are used later on for a multitude of purposes—keeping a history of the group, providing club programmes, decorating, etc.

Groups operating in the warmer weather have even more chance to make good use of their cameras. Bush walking clubs, nature study groups, sailing enthusiasts and many others could utilise their cameras for this purpose.

There are certain types of hobbyists who are interested in things which just cannot be collected physically.

The camera is invaluable to people who like trains, boats, trees and other things which can be seen but not brought home except in pictures.

Then there are lots of camera fans who use their equipment in conjunction with their handicraft work. Some keep progress records in pictures, and others make photographs of the finished product. This is a good idea, especially where the item is expendable—like a model airplane.

For most ordinary hobby work your regular camera will work nicely. But for those who wish to go more seriously into picture taking with other hobbies there is special photographic equipment that can be helpful. For example, for the fan who wishes to record his handicraft activities, a close-up attachment might be a valuable thing to have. So would a filter for fans who are looking for dramatic pictures of trains or boats.

Photo Greeting Cards.

The photographic Christmas card has become an extremely popular way of sending holiday greetings to friends. It has the pleasing advantage of being both a personal and original type of greeting.

This being true of Christmas, why not employ photographic greeting cards the year round?

Besides party invitations, why not use your camera to make place cards, book plates and book marks, greeting cards, birth announcements, change of address announcements and calendar decorations? You probably can think of many more ideas.

First requirement in a project of this kind is to start early enough to complete the job in time for the occasion. If you don't have to rush too much, you can do a much better job.

Creating a photographic message offers great possibilities for clever and ingenious work. The birthday party invitation in the illustration is an example of the easy to make, yet effective, type of photographic message. You could write your message on a blackboard or a sizeable piece of cardboard. You might even create a table top arrangement to tell your story cleverly.

Your dealer can make the regular prints for you, and then you can mount them on cardboard or combine them with your own art work. If you have a darkroom, you have even greater photographic freedom. You can attempt a few darkroom tricks, such as double printing, or paste-ups, or the addition of your own line copy. There is no end of possibilities.

Enlargements.

Every picture taker has snapshots that are extra special favourites. He takes great pride in displaying them. Some are snaps of the family, or vacation pictures. They deserve to be made into striking enlargements.

If you like a snapshot, it's a safe bet that it's a candidate for enlargement. Details show up much more clearly, faces are far more recognisable, and the whole picture is easier to look at. Furthermore, an occasional enlargement adds variety to a snapshot album.

If you have a darkroom and enlarger of your own, you already know that it's a simple matter to enlarge your favourite pictures. But if you don't, you should get one or have your photo finisher do the work for you. He can make the enlargements to whatever size you wish.

In enlarging a picture, usually you can improve it by cutting out unimportant or undesirable details that may spoil effectiveness of the original print. If one edge of the scene has a distracting feature, it is simple to take it out. The composition, too, usually can be improved by cropping during enlargement. In this way you can emphasise your centre of interest. This achieves a nicely composed scene.

You can frame the prints or mount them for display around the house. Enlargements make nice gifts too.

Keep Your Lens Clean.

A camera is a very ingenious instrument. Through the marvels of modern chemistry and physics it enables each of us to become an artist at the snap of a button.

Ingenious as it is, however, your camera does require a little help from you. It should always be handled with reasonable care and kept clean and in good operating condition.

The most important single part of your camera is the lens. Through it passes the light that produces the images on your film. If your lens becomes dusty and smeared with fingerprints, it obviously can't form a sharp image. Your pictures will be fuzzy and indistinct. It is simple to keep the lens clean. While you are shooting, keep some lens cleaning tissue or a soft, clean, lintless handkerchief handy.

If your lens is coated with dust and grease, use a drop or two of lens cleaning fluid before wiping the



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surface with your lens tissue or linen. But don't put the lens cleaning fluid directly on the lens itself—put it on the lens cleaning tissue. Don't try to clean a lens without first blowing the heavy, scratchy grit and dirt away.

Most of the grease found on lenses comes from fingers, so try to form the habit of not touching those glass surfaces. Don't ever wipe your lens with a cloth that is soiled. Tiny particles of dust and dirt can easily scratch the polished surface.

Dust usually gathers inside the camera, too. If allowed to remain, it causes annoying specks on your pictures. Before loading the camera with film, wipe out the interior surfaces. While the camera is open, you can reach the back surface of your lens.

Don't tinker with, or attempt to oil, the internal mechanism of the shutter and lens. That's strictly a job for an expert.

What is Composition?

Composition can be defined very simply as the arrangement of the elements within a picture. When these elements are arranged in a pleasing manner we have a picture that is interesting to look at. We all want snapshots that are pleasing to the eye.

One of the first rules of composition is this: Make each picture tell just one story. If you are taking a picture of pretty little cousin Mary, don't include half the front yard, the neighbour's garage, assorted lilac bushes and passing automobiles. Move in close to where you get a picture of her.

Keep your main point of interest away from the exact centre of the picture. That spot is the most static position possible. Move it off a little to one side.

If you examine any picture closely, you will notice that it is composed of lines and masses of light and dark tones. By the manner in which you arrange these lines or masses you again can influence the effectiveness of your picture.

The lines in a picture can be smooth curves, such as created by a hillside fence or a winding stream. These frequently will form the old reliable "S" curve that is such a classic among photographers. Or they can be straight lines such as you might find in architecture. But straight or curved, their function should be to lead the eye subtly toward your centre of interest.

With the masses or tones, the principal consideration is to keep them reasonably equalised and properly distributed throughout the scene. If this is done, the eye senses a nice balance and the picture is pleasant to look at.

Ideas for the Photo Album.

Have those snapshots been piling up on you lately? Now is an excellent time to sort all the prints and get them into your albums.

Incidentally, there is a new trend in album keeping. Camera fans are getting away from the bulky catch-all type of album in favour of the smaller compact types for specific picture subjects. These can be vacation trips, the children, school days, family hobbies, etc. Doing it this way permits each album to be more of a story-telling record of the family activities.

The first things to do, then, with that stack of prints is to organise it into album subjects. Then comes the editing of the pictures. Lay them out on a table and pick out those that best tell the story.

You can find many duplications, and there will be prints of poor quality. Eliminate them.

Once you have selected the prints that will go into the book, spread them out again and pick out some of the most striking ones for enlarging. Nothing gives album pages more punch than the change of pace provided by a few good enlargements.

Then mount them on the pages of your album.

Here is where your ingenuity can come into full play. Use variety in your layout.

What About Competition?

(Suggestions by Phil Glanser, a Canadian Correspondent)

How pharmacy and the drug business will meet the challenge of competitive markets in the years that lie ahead is a matter for serious consideration today.

The supermarkets will handle and sell any fast-moving item the buying public will purchase. They take only the cream—the best-selling items—and use less than one-half the space the average drug stores use. They won't handle slow-selling items, which turn over two or three times a year; they leave that to you. The profit structure on the fast-moving items is extraordinary by supermarket standards. They are not concerned about handling supposedly exclusive drug store products.

A few years ago the cosmetic and toiletry departments of variety stores carried only ten-cent sizes. Today these same stores have all the large sizes in massive displays because it means large volume for them. They, too, along with the supermarkets, are not concerned about handling supposedly exclusive drug store products.

Door-to-door selling is severe drug store competition, and it is growing by leaps and bounds every year. Everybody is fighting for additional business, and is not concerned as to where to get it or whose toes are stepped on.

The difference between a profitable store and one that shows only a meager or mediocre profit can be attributed to the merchandising characteristics or capabilities exhibited by the individual.

When you detail physicians, call for and deliver prescriptions, follow through on a physicians' mailing list, keep an exceptionally clean and well-stocked prescription department—you are merchandising.

In your front shop the word merchandising has a different interpretation. It means putting the right items in the right place at the right time—and that is not as difficult as it sounds. Determine your best store traffic locations, and use them to display your seasonal merchandise—whether it be toiletries, merchandise or sundries. Then watch the sale of this merchandise. If some items don't respond, change the item or relocate the display. In this way you will create more sales and more volume. But there must be daily application of effort—not weekly or monthly.

Merchandise nationally advertised products rather than off-brands. The buying habits of the public have undergone radical changes in the past 15 years. National advertising, which is heavier each succeeding year in newspapers, magazines, on the radio, etc., has made the general public know what it wants.

Consider a remodelling programme for your store—not necessarily elaborate in scope, but gradual. Emphasise better lighting, a more attractive store front, perhaps an additional fixture here or there, and fresh-looking exterior and interior signs. Every drug store should improve and continue to improve its physical features.

Proper displays and merchandising should retrieve some of the business the drug stores may have lost. Self-service, as provided by showing impulse merchandise on case tops, or on counters, plus centre floor displays that enable the customer to pick up merchandise and bring it to an employee, appears to be most practical.

Readers' Views

To the Editor.

These columns are open for the free discussion of any matter of general interest to Pharmacists. Letters under a nom de plume may be published; but each correspondent must furnish his name and address as an evidence of good faith. It must be distinctly understood that the opinions expressed by our correspondents are not necessarily endorsed editorially.

INDUSTRIAL MATTERS IN W.A.

Sir,—Some comment appears necessary in respect of the remarks of the President, W.A. Pharmaceutical Guild, as published in your issue of August 30, 1952, on page 774.

The matter referred to is contained in the President's Annual Report to the Guild, as related to industrial matters, and, among those who were present at the conferences mentioned, occasion considerable surprise.

The President states, *inter alia*, "We met the Union on several occasions, and were prepared to make reasonable concessions." Surely he realises that until the Union is acquainted with the proposed concessions, its delegates are prevented from adjudging their proclaimed reasonableness.

Further he states, "I feel that the employees, especially the apprentices, had been blinded to the fact, by the Union, that they were future master pharmacists."

Really, this is no compliment to the intelligence of the "future master pharmacists." And has the President of the Guild so soon forgotten the decision of the Conciliation Commissioner to the effect that he would give consideration to improvements in the award when the employees most concerned showed themselves interested in the matter? And has he also forgotten that the Union's influence among apprentices at the time of the application was such that it was necessary to subpoena a non-member apprentice as a witness? Is it any consolation to the President that the attitude of the Guild and the remarks of the Commissioner have combined to effect an extraordinary enhancement in the membership of the employees' association?

And finally a most remarkable statement was made: "They ignored our offer and lost everything." Has the President again forgotten my question, directed to him at the last conference held, as to whether the Guild had anything to offer in the matter of marginal rates, and the reply, with another question, as to what the Union was prepared to accept? At no time, I repeat, at no time, did the Guild delegates make any monetary offer to the Union.

"And lost everything." Transcript notes of the Court proceedings indicate to us that apprentices did derive some monetary benefit from the application, and indicate further that the Commissioner has reserved to the Union the right to return to the Court at any time in respect of margins, and that on such return further consideration of the rates for apprentices will be effected. That does not indicate to us our annihilation. If our interpretation of the transcript is at fault in this matter we would appreciate correction.—Yours, etc.,

LEWIS M. LIPSETT (Secretary),
Pharmaceutical Employees' Association, Industrial
Union of Workers, Perth.
46A Stirling street, Perth, W.A.,
September 29, 1952.

Mr. Dallimore makes the following comments upon the above letter:—

When the Union representatives met the Guild and were asked to state the minimum demands, their spokes-

man was emphatic in his statement that they refused to accept any amount lower than that asked for in their list of claims.

This uncompromising attitude was instrumental in breaking up the meeting and prevented any further negotiations towards a consent award.

As a new claim is now being served upon the employers, it is to be hoped that in any future negotiations with the Guild representatives, a more reasonable attitude will be adopted by their Committee.

I would like to point out that the Guild will be only too happy to meet their Committee at any time.

Legal

PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS

Queensland Chemist Heavily Fined.

Sidney Victor Meredith, pharmaceutical chemist, of Gympie, Queensland, was charged in the Gympie Court of Petty Sessions on September 30, and pleaded not guilty to four complaints of falsifying claims on the Commonwealth for drugs supplied on prescription.

The charges alleged falsification of prescriptions, repeat prescriptions, and claim forms under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act, constituting an offence under Section 29 (b) of the Crimes Act 1940-1950.

For the prosecution it was alleged that false claims had been made in relation to insulin, tetanus antitoxin and penicillin, during September, October, November and December, 1951.

The amount alleged to have been misrepresented was £1765.

Mr. J. D. McGill, who appeared with Mr. A. J. Martin for the Crown Law Office, explained that each month chemists lodged claim forms with the Commonwealth Health Department for payment of drugs supplied under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act.

Investigation showed that Meredith's claim rose from £100 in September to £931 in December. During investigations both Meredith and his son, Gerald Gale Meredith, stated that everything had been supplied as stated in the prescriptions.

One particular woman patient, said Mr. McGill, was supplied with insulin, and the doctor had informed the complainants that he had not prescribed the drug.

Meredith and his son were asked for their records concerning the purchase of large stocks of insulin worth more than £1000, said Mr. McGill. Meredith replied that records were not kept of every transaction, and he could not produce any relating to the purchase of that amount.

Continuing, Mr. McGill said that the son had said that 20,000 units of tetanus antitoxin had been bought in various places in the south. The amount claimed for this was more than that issued by the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories for the four months. Meredith's son had said it was not a Commonwealth Serum Laboratory drug, but another brand which he could not remember.

Mr. McGill said it was common practice for a doctor to telephone prescriptions which were written in by the chemist on the blank form signed by the doctor. Evidence would be called that drugs appeared in these forms which had not been prescribed.

Dr. N. B. Wilmer, in evidence, identified 15 prescriptions which he said he had not written in full. One

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with Metaphen

was for a girl aged three for which there were 12 repeats of insulin. There were also 12 repeats in the case of a child of six years.

Thomas Aubrey Huxley, Senior Administrative Officer of the Commonwealth Health Department, in the course of his evidence referred to an interview with Meredith, who said, "I thought we were doing very well, but as we were selling large quantities of sulpha and penicillin I thought it was all right."

Huxley identified 26 prescriptions which he said had been extracted from claim forms submitted by Meredith. He said Meredith had recognised the handwriting on nearly all the prescriptions as that of his son.

In some instances Meredith admitted that drugs specified in prescriptions had not been supplied. He told Mr. C. Fairleigh, who appeared for Meredith, that Meredith had told him his son handled Pharmaceutical Benefit matters in the shop.

Mr. Fairleigh: "He said he had nothing to do with it and did not know anything about it?" "No, he said I must accept full responsibility."

Mr. Fairleigh: "He never at any time said he knew that something had been claimed which was not correct?" Huxley: "Not to me."

Dr. H. L. Kesteven identified prescriptions which he alleged he had not ordered.

Keith Logan Bate, pharmaceutical chemist, Inspector of the Commonwealth Health Department, testified that Meredith had claimed about £1000 for Lilly insulin allegedly supplied by him under the scheme. Meredith, Jr., said they had no invoices for the purchase of this insulin, which he claimed had been bought in the south.

Bate said Meredith, Jr., had told him he could not remember where he had purchased the insulin.

Meredith was found guilty on three charges of actual and one of attempted falsification of claims to the Commonwealth for refunds on drugs allegedly supplied under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act.

He was convicted and fined £200, and was ordered to make restitution of £1068, and was also ordered to pay costs and expenses totalling £87.

Default on each of the four charges was six months' gaol.

During the four-day hearing it was stated that the handwriting on the falsified prescriptions was that of Meredith's son, a pharmaceutical chemist. The Crown Prosecutor, however, successfully submitted that Meredith must accept responsibility for defalcation, as he was the approved chemist in whose name repayments by the Commonwealth had been made.

of its new headquarters. The Council is suggesting to the International Pharmaceutical Federation that it should set up sections on a functional basis, with the Chairman of each section being a member of the Council of the Federation. This body will next meet in Vienna in September.

Increased Premises Fee.

The excess of expenditure over income in the last accounts of the Pharmaceutical Society was noted in the June newsletter. To offset this deficit, the Council is preparing to amend the by-laws to increase Premises Registration and Retention Fee from two guineas to £3. The proposed by-law must be approved by the Privy Council.

Wage Increase Granted.

A settlement has been reached in the application by the Trade Union side of the National Joint Industrial Council for Retail Pharmacy for an increase in salaries. As from September 1 male managers will receive a weekly increase of 15/- and female managers 13/-. The corresponding increases for non-managing pharmacists will be 12/- and 10/- respectively. As a result of the new agreement the minimum rate for managers will be £11/5/- per week in London and £10/15/- per week in the provinces. Male qualified assistants' minimum wages range from £8/7/- to £9/17/- per week. Scales for unqualified assistants are still under consideration.

Chemists' Accounts Criticised.

The Report of the Committee of Public Accounts for 1951-52 criticises the Ministry of Health's dealings with chemists. It declares that little progress has been made in filling the gaps in that Department's knowledge of the facts relevant to the assessment both of proper remuneration of those employed in the N.H.S. and of fair and reasonable prices for goods supplied. It had been proposed to ask the chemists to agree to an investigation of overhead expenses, but, says the Report, they do not now consider that such an investigation would be worth while until the effect of the recently-introduced charge for prescriptions is known. Although cuts have been made in the rates of remuneration for some of the professional services, these reductions were not arrived at after investigating the net income actually provided by the remuneration, and their fairness has not been tested by subsequent investigation. The Committee find it difficult to agree that knowledge of the facts in the period before charges were made to patients would be of little value in fixing remuneration for the future. They would have thought that this information, if properly interpreted, would provide an adequate basis on which to negotiate remuneration appropriate to the changed conditions, and they do not consider that rates which had been ascertained to be excessive should remain unrevised until it is known precisely how far the introduction of charges may have reduced the demand for the services.

No investigations have been made of manufacturers' costs; they believe that competition within the industry has been sufficient to ensure that the list prices are fair. They have, however, begun negotiations with the manufacturers of some proprietary preparations; reductions have been obtained in the prices of two preparations, and 15 others are under consideration, but progress in the negotiations is slow.

The Committee agree it would more effectually protect the Exchequer if the prices of supplies obtained for the service were treated as needing the same careful investigation as those for supplies under non-competitive tenders. The Departments believe prices of drugs to be limited by competition, but in the absence of investigation the Committee do not know on what evidence this belief is based. They observe, moreover, that the Ministry have not tested by cost investigation the prices paid for proprietary preparations, which are clearly not determined by competition, nor for certain special drugs bought from a single supplier or from suppliers who quote identical prices. The Departments

Overseas News

GREAT BRITAIN

London: September 10, 1952.

Commonwealth Conference Planned.

At the August meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society it was decided to ascertain the views of representative bodies in the Commonwealth on a proposal to hold a Conference in 1953. Next year the British Pharmaceutical Conference will meet in London, and this is considered an appropriate occasion to discuss problems of common interest.

The Society continues to take an active part in international pharmacy. The President, Mr. W. J. Tristram, has been in the United States conveying an address of congratulation to the American Pharmaceutical Association on the celebration of its centenary. Mr. H. N. Linstead, joint Secretary, was also there, having been invited as a special guest of the Association. The Council had decided to present a clock to the Ordre de Pharmaciens de France for use in the Council chamber

agree that there are statutory powers to investigate costs, but they consider that there is very little point in doing this, unless it is also intended to use the powers to control prices, and no decision has yet been reached on this latter question. The Committee do not accept the view that knowledge of costs is of no use unless prices are to be controlled. To obtain information as to actual costs of production appears to them to be the most effective method of testing the reasonableness of any prices whose fairness is not clearly established by competition; and they would expect that in this way it might often be possible to ensure fair and reasonable prices without recourse to price control.

Competition Amongst Manufacturers.

Although the report quoted above may appear sceptical of the competition amongst manufacturers, there is evidence that it is very keen at the present time. In one of the leading Sunday newspapers it is stated that many doctors are complaining that they are bombarded with circulars from drug manufacturing companies, and that they are the victims of a "war" between rival groups. One London practitioner is reported to have said: "Of my daily postbag 80 per cent. consists of voluminous advertisements. For one remedy, seven drug houses present their own preparations—several different names for one basic article." While another practitioner stated: "There are more than 40 varieties of barbiturates—used as sleeping drugs—and all the manufacturers seem to send out advertisements. So do the manufacturers of penicillin preparations. And we are deluged with advertisements for vitamin preparations, hormones, anti-histamine drugs and cough mixtures."

Ministry and New Remedies.

The multiplicity of different names for the same drug was condemned by Sir Weldon Dalrymple-Champneys, Deputy Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, in an address to a meeting of medical practitioners. He said: It had been estimated that in 1951 about 229 million prescriptions were dispensed under the N.H.S. at an average cost of 3/11⁴ per prescription, and of these about 20 per cent. by number and 40 per cent. by cost were for proprietary preparations. Though valuable new drugs have been developed at great cost by some proprietary firms, other firms, tempted by the facilities for prescribing afforded by the N.H.S., had merely duplicated standard preparations under proprietary names, or had formulated medicines of doubtful therapeutic value at high prices. Such duplicate and doubtful medicines appeared to constitute a major cause of the increase in the proprietary drug bill, and their prescription to be the result of skilful propaganda to the doctor and advertising to the public, which, of course, results in pressure on the doctor by the patient.

The advent of the National Health Service had made the position far more serious by the impetus it had given to the unnecessary multiplication of medicines and the intolerable burden thereby placed on the country's finances, so that the finding of a solution was a matter of urgent importance. It was worth noting in this connection that France has recently taken drastic action to curb the production of unnecessary or valueless proprietary medicines. Following the introduction of legislation, manufacturers had been obliged to register their products and pay a fee for such registration, with the result that the 20,000 marketed proprietary medicines were reduced overnight to 8000. These 8000 were then classified therapeutically, and no new preparations were considered for entry on the register unless an expert committee decided that they represented a significant advance on those already available. The brand name of a particular drug had been restricted to the original manufacturer, and the prices of new products have been controlled. A number of other European countries were likely to follow this lead in the near future, and

the probable effect of such a change on the British drug trade is obvious.

Therapeutic Effects.

Sir Weldon Dalrymple-Champneys also touched on the therapeutic effects of new remedies on the course of known diseases. He asked what were the possible long-term effects of the new remedies which had been and were being evolved at such a phenomenal rate? The resulting situation seems to be another case of the machine running away with us. Heaven forbid that they as medical men should reject or refuse to examine with the greatest care any remedy which might be of benefit to their patients, but they are being forced by circumstances at the present time to use many new remedies because of the immediate benefit they confer, whilst they were still ignorant of their long-term effect, either singly or in combination. For instance, could the sudden and radical changing of the micro-flora of the upper respiratory passages and the alimentary canal by antibiotics like chloramphenicol be regarded with complete equanimity? Again, should they not regard with some apprehension the rapidity with which more and more strains of micro-organisms are being evolved which are resistant to more and more antibiotics, till perhaps the stage would be reached at which the race between the development of new antibiotics and the acquisition of resistance by the pathogenic organism was won by the latter? What about cortisone and A.C.T.H.? Could it be safely assumed that such powerful hormones, given continuously over a long period, as in rheumatoid arthritis, would have no deleterious effect upon other tissues than those whose disturbances had given the indications for such treatment? And lastly, speaking as an epidemiologist, he found that the interference by those hormones with skin reactions, which were such valuable aids in the diagnosis of infection and the estimation of resistance, disturbing to say the least of it.

Non-Proprietary Names.

In addition to the list of non-proprietary names given in the July News Letter, the Sub-Committee of the Expert Committee on the International Pharmacopoeia has issued the following list of names for suggested approval by national organisations:—

Latin International Non-Proprietary Name	English Chemical Name or Description
Acebrocholum . . .	acetodibromodihydrocholesterol
Chlornaphazinum . .	2,2'-dichlorodiethyl-β-naphthylamine
Intermedinum . . .	active principle of the <i>pars intermedia</i> of the pituitary
Iproniazidum . . .	1-isonicotinyl-2-isopropylhydrazide
Pentaerithryli	
Tetranitras . . .	
Phenylbutazonum . .	3,5-dioxo-1,2'-diphenyl-4-n-butylpyrazolidine
Procainamidum . . .	4-amino-(2-diethylaminoethyl) benzamide
Salicylamidum . . .	2-hydroxybenzamide
Sulfamethizolum . .	5-sulfanilamido-2-methyl-1,3,4-thiadiazole

The Nottingham Conference.

On September 1 the British Pharmaceutical Conference began its 89th meeting, with the University of Nottingham as the centre of activities. Approximately 500 members and friends were present to hear Mr. W. J. Tristram, President of the Pharmaceutical Society, welcome the delegates. The Lord Mayor of Nottingham recalled that 30 years had passed since the Conference was there before, and spoke of the benefactions which the Trent family had conferred on the University and City. The Trent family founded by Sir Jesse Boots must always be linked with industry of the town, and the present Lord Trent was Chancellor of the University.

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T35/85

At the Branch Representatives' Meeting Mr. J. W. Tristram welcomed the Representatives from overseas. These included: Dr. E. Høst Madsen (Denmark), President of the Federation Internationale Pharmaceutique; Mr. and Mrs. R. S. F. Greig (Australia); Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Delahunty (Australia); Dr. Eugen Unna (Hamburg, secretary German Pharmaceutical Society); Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Guenther (Australia).

A Report of the Branch Representatives' Meeting will be given in the next News Letter.

The Minister Speaks.

At the Conference banquet the Minister of Health, the Rt. Hon. Iain Macleod, proposed the toast of "The British Pharmaceutical Conference." He said it was very interesting to have side by side with the discussion of the new antibiotics discussion on some of the older and traditional remedies, and to see that even the common fox-glove still claimed their attention. But it was the new science of antibiotics which, he thought, excited laymen most. They had seen some awe-inspiring advances in this field in the last few years, and sometimes one was left with the thought that perhaps some of these discoveries had almost followed too fast upon each other, that they had not always had time to assess fully the potentialities of any of the antibiotics before a successor had appeared. They knew, too, that in some cases they had sometimes left behind them a trail of unsuspected results, but, with all that, this new development carried tremendous hope with it for the outcome in the ceaseless fight that they were all waging together against ill-health in this country and throughout the world.

It was a great pleasure for him to come to the Conference, because he thought that all needed reminding—the pharmacists, the chemists, and, not least, the Minister of Health—that there were more important matters in the field of pharmacy to discuss than whether the container charge should be 1½d. or 1½d. He was very glad that the emphasis in the Conference had been on research, an activity that gave great and splendid hope for the future.

SOUTH AFRICA

July Meeting of the Board.

The South African Pharmacy Board held a meeting in Durban in mid-July. Durban was wisely chosen, since the rest of the Union has been shivering in icy blasts, and snow has covered the mountain ranges.

Personnel Shortage Persists.

Always the first consideration at the July and December meetings are the examinations results. Although the tabulated results are not yet available, the press report states that the shortage of chemists is gradually being relieved. This may be the case in the larger centres, but in many towns and country areas there is still an acute shortage, and some pharmacies have had to close down for lack of a qualified manager.

This in part is due to the desire of the young chemist to stay in the larger cities where there is more to do. Because of over-stocking and rash buying, trade in these larger cities has become competitive, and prices of all sorts of goods have tumbled. Since salaries thus go further in the cities, there is good reason for the preference. At one time the country was far cheaper to live in, but conditions seem to have reversed.

Report has it that there is also a record number of apprentices on the register, but they are still scarce in Johannesburg.

Technical College or University?

Considerable publicity through the press and over the radio was given to a deputation representing the Technical Colleges which was received by the Board. The Colleges were naturally interested in their future, in view of the proposal to establish Schools of Pharmacy in the Universities. So far only one University has been requested to negotiate, and the negotiations are far from complete.

The Board wishes the University to accept its diploma as giving admission to the degree examination. This would in effect result in the Universities recognising the Tecs. as training centres; in the Union there is little co-operation between these two types of institution. The history of pharmaceutical education in the Union is following that in Great Britain very closely, and we have just reached the stage when pharmacy is rather looked down upon by the Universities. The time will come when the Universities will regard it with envy and put out the red carpet of welcome.

Reverting to the delegation, the Board intimated that they were not contemplating withdrawing recognition from any college, although the Committee of Enquiry's Report referred to only three Tecs. Reassured, the Colleges will now be able to go on with their plans for development and expansion. Although it will be some time before the Act reaches the Statute Book, these plans have to be laid down well ahead. Most laboratory equipment has to be imported, and the currency regulations cause no small delay. In some cases it is possible to have the building done locally, provided you watch every step from drawing board to unveiling. Fortunately the Union has just acquired a firm of glass blowers which is a heaven-sent boon to the laboratory chemist.

Influenza Epidemic.

The Union has been suffering an epidemic of virus influenza of unusual virility, conditioned no doubt by rapidly-changing climatic conditions. That seems to be as good a story as any, if we discount the attentions of the Dean of Canterbury's germ warfare groups! Certainly it is insidious; arriving at my office at 8.30 a.m., apparently normal, I was home in bed in less than two hours later, with a concentrated attack. Temptation lurked between letting it take its course and staying in bed a week, or taking chloromycetin and getting back to work. It would seem that the time is now ripe for the very large-scale production of this antibiotic and its distribution at a nominal price in the name of industrial efficiency.

Medical Propaganda on the Air.

During my vacation in bed I would fain have lain in solitary silence and, like the fisherman, either "set and think, or just set." Unfortunately the juvenile members of my family were also sufferers, and demanded to hear the commercial radio programme. For 18 hours per day one is compelled to listen to concentrated medical propaganda. One just hopes that some responsible officer of government will in like circumstances be compelled to listen to and enquire upon the retail price of a popular aspirin—only 4/9 per 100. One small ray of comfort, though—no "funeral parlour" in the Union has yet discovered the potentialities of the radio; the day may come when a solemn voice from a background of heavenly orchestras will assure us, with some degree of truth, that it is cheaper to die!

Strangely enough, my sole reading matter was the current issue of the S.A. Pharmaceutical Journal which contained—an article on colds!!! Casting my mind back over my 30 years in pharmacy, it is simple to see that little has been added to the overall picture in that time. I recall that as an apprentice I never—well, hardly ever—caught a cold. I also recall that we made a somewhat fierce chlorine mixture; I always attributed freedom from colds to my daily sniff of chlorine whilst making it. However, my boss used to attribute his apprentices' well being to their twice or thrice daily trips to the sherry hogshead! Post hoc ergo propter hoc! My local press has been getting rather hot under the collar about a public statement by a well-known doctor. For my own part I think the worthy doctor is not unskilled in the ethics of advertising; however, he condemns milk as unfit for children, and recommends the return to the wines and ales of yesteryear! There is a lot of sound sense in what he says, but I tremble with anticipation at what

will happen to a schoolmaster when he reprimands a 6th form boy who has just had his morning quart of ale!

Control of Pharmacy by Pharmacists.

I note with interest in the aforementioned Journal an account of the opening of the Belgian Pharmaceutical Society's Control Laboratories in Brussels. In Belgium proprietary medicines are controlled, and with a remarkable prescience which I would like to see elsewhere, the Government have handed that control to the body best fitted to exercise it—the profession of pharmacy. I venture to suggest that in every country where pharmacy controls itself the status of the profession has improved, and the protection of the general public also.

A Mobile Laboratory.

It is interesting to learn that the S.A. Bureau of Standards is proposing to equip a mobile laboratory which will tour industrial areas and be available for consultation on industrial hazards in factories. This is just another example of the lines of work which the chemist and druggist is allowing to get away from him, because he doesn't want to equip himself to be worthy of the title of chemist. My Australasian readers will soon begin to think I have a bee in my bonnet on this subject! And how right they are! I cannot believe that a chemist will go through a long college course and then willingly turn himself into a bazaar salesman—except in self defence!

I believe I am right in that statement. During the last ten years I have seen many newly-qualified chemists go forth into the world, the ink on their diplomas hardly dry—their "ideals" and their ambitions still brightly burnished. I know what those ideals were, and only when they come into contact with grim reality do they give them up. The majority of young chemists turn either to hospitals or to the ethical firms for jobs, and so keep their ideals clean.

Qualified Detailists.

In the field of ethical representation more and more firms are employing qualified representatives. Eventually all these firms will send only qualified men to call on their professional brethren—which is as it should be. Chemists could themselves bring this about by insisting that travellers be qualified.

Dispensing Doctors.

The Society, or rather the Executive, are now faced with the problem of reducing the incidence of the dispensing doctor. In this matter I have been doing a little investigation. To my surprise I find that during the last 2000 years doctors have rarely dispensed. Only in Great Britain did this become the rule during the development of the apothecary from the chemist. Only in Great Britain and South Africa does this practice still exist.

Dispensing has, of course, changed very much in character during the last 20 years, and neither the teaching of dispensing in medical schools nor the teaching of prescribing has kept pace with this change. The majority of prescriptions today are for ethicals, and, as any manufacturer will tell you, these are very carefully formulated to give maximum stability and therapeutic efficiency. They should, therefore, not be prescribed as ingredients of compound prescriptions.

A survey of text books of dispensing, especially American ones, shows that a considerable portion of the dispensing teaching time is taken up by instruction in the handling of incompatible prescriptions. It follows, therefore, that the doctors are equally busily engaged in writing those prescriptions. It is a shocking indictment of modern medical practice, but it is true!

How, then, to combat this problem of the dispensing doctor? By constant expression of the unified disapproval of the pharmaceutical profession; by constant reiteration of the inefficiency of the present method; and by constantly stressing the uneconomic angle of it.

High Cost of Ethicals.

During the recent Pharmacy Board meeting Mr. John Christie, M.P., the Board's President, discussed the problem of the high cost of the new ethicals. The suggestion made, quite a good one too, is that the State should buy the patent rights for these products and manufacture them here in the Union. Firms have a right to expect remuneration for their research work, but when these products arrive here the various costs have made the price astronomical.

Registrar's Summary of Statistics.

Part of the Board's work is to consider the Registrar's Summary of Statistics. These show that there are 2400 chemists on the Register and some 1427 pharmacies. This latter figure includes all manufacturing houses, wholesalers, etc., there being no differentiation between pharmacies in the Union. The extent to which this pharmaceutical service is competent to serve the national needs is revealed by the fact that 4800 Poisons Licences were issued to general dealers! Nearly 5000 un-qualified avenues for the sale of poison against 1400 qualified! And the year—1952!

Peculiarly enough, there might be even fewer chemists on the Register if the 700 who have forgotten to pay their registration fee do not get out their cheque books soon!

It would seem that the Bill to introduce a new class of dispensers will not now be proceeded with. The strongest possible exception was taken by organised pharmacy to this proposed step, and to have taken it would have been like releasing the atom bomb!

Increase in the number of entrants to pharmacy is now likely with the recognition of manufacturing laboratories as proper places for the training of apprentices.

Many Failures at Final Examinations.

Earlier in this letter I mentioned the awaited results of the June exams. These results are now to hand. They are not very reassuring. Out of 70 candidates for the Qualifying Examination only 14 passed. The low results perturbed the Board of Examiners, not to mention the candidates! The reason for these failures is hard to find, but in the opinion of the writer the cause goes right back to the school days and to the matriculation fetish.

When a student reaches College he has so leaned on authority all his life that he is no longer capable of independent thought and observation. What he learns he learns mechanically, and then can rarely apply it. Complete mastery of the subjects of Pharmacy or Pharmacognosy are rare, and real interest displayed by a student is seldom met with.

What the cure for this condition is, is not altogether clear. It is simple to voice the usual "Oh, apprentices are not what they were in my day." But is it really true? I think so, but I could be wrong!

However, I have been perturbed by the way in which apprentices are admitted to the profession. Here in South Africa the only person who has any say in the matter is the pharmacist himself. Apprentices are, however, so rare that the chemist is all too apt to grab him without any thought to his ultimate suitability for the profession. Perhaps it would be a good thing if the profession formed local apprenticeship committees to consider applications from school for the admission of boys to a list of apprentices. A committee would consider the applications from a dispassionate point of view and take into account general education and attitude towards the profession. Rarely do I find a boy who knows why he entered pharmacy. Mostly "it seemed like a good idea."

The Board's Report.

The S.A. Pharmacy Board has issued its semi-annual report. In it the Registrar announces that the Board have now accepted the title "Diploma in Pharmacy"

for the Chemist and Druggist qualification. The title Dip. Pharm. is presumably created to give the non-graduate a title equivalent to the B.Pharm. The degree has not yet materialised, and it seems to me that that particular egg is added. Whether a new clutch can be inserted under the hen remains to be seen.

This same report mentions the first case for a very long time of erasure of a chemist's name from the Register. Quite a few cases are heard each year into breaches of the code of ethics, and the usual penalty is a reprimand. This speaks well of the standard of professional conduct maintained in the Union. However, the Board has felt constrained to issue a warning with reference to the non-observance of the Poisons Regulations. It is not always easy to get a signature, as for some reason South African women would rather spend half an hour arguing over a signature than give a brief two minutes to signing the book.

The examination results and the present state of the Register are also quoted. The Intermediate Examination results are not good, only 36 per cent. of the 120 candidates having passed, although only 38 failed completely. This is evidence that part-time training, which is still permissible for this examination, is not satisfactory. The Qualifying Examination, for which full-time training is now compulsory, shows a pass list of 67 out of 148 candidates, with only 20 complete failures.

The Register has at present 2400 chemists and 567 apprentices listed. Recognition as training centres has been accorded to several hospitals, but the dispensaries of the Railway Sick Fund have not been recognized. Gradually the number of entrants into pharmacy has been increased, until locally and in most of the big centres there is a distinct shortage of pupils. A campaign amongst the schools will probably bring a few, but there seems to be an aversion to entering a profession which involves study. I am not sure that I blame them, as often the financial rewards in professional circles are less than in others.

A Register of Students.

Amongst the innovations introduced by the Board is a Register of Pharmacy Students. In the past once a student had finished his apprenticeship he had been lost sight of. It has been impossible to keep track of them and to determine what happens to those who do not qualify.

Salaries of Hospital Pharmacists.

The current issue of the S.A. Pharmaceutical Journal reports on the reason why hospitals do not acquire qualified pharmacists—the salaries are too low! We have always known this, of course, but are pleased to see that this time the acknowledgment is an official one. In other countries we find hospitals largely staffed by women, but in South Africa women do not seem to enter the profession to any extent. If they did this would solve a great many worries, for it is always possible to draw locums from the ranks of married women pharmacists.

A Home for Pharmacy.

The scheme to build a home for pharmacy is now well under way, with a National Committee elected and funds coming in. Unfortunately, it is possibly too late to turn the home into a second Bloomsbury square and start a School of Pharmacy in it. A Museum will undoubtedly be started, and the history of pharmacy recorded for posterity.

Pharmaceutical Exchange with U.S.A.

An agreement has recently been made between the Union of South Africa and the United States of America for educational exchange to the value of £17,000. It will be greatly to the advantage of both countries if a few pharmacists were to be exchanged. South Africans are great travellers, but few pharmacists have gone to places other than the United Kingdom to gain further experience in pharmacy. Although our idea of American pharmacy is often conditioned by the

films, they can in many ways give us points, and much could be learned and passed on if a pharmacist or two were to study there.

Possibility of Developing Pharmaceutical Research.

Here in the Union we have never developed a School of Pharmacy of the calibre of Bloomsbury square or the Philadelphia College. In no small measure is this due to the small numbers of students and the comparative newness of the country. Although every year the manufacturing of chemicals and galenicals is on the increase, the country is still all too dependent upon imports. The manufacturers seem very little interested in promoting these manufactures, and few, if any, sponsor research in pharmacy or support the School of Pharmacy. It may be that in the next few decades this development will take place. The nucleus of workers is there, but stifled and overworked. Original work produced is small. This probably arises out of the attitude of the authorities towards the function of Technical Colleges. Such colleges are regarded as nothing more than trade schools. However, the lessons of history prove that in every country the Technical Colleges have developed, in spite of everything, to the status of Technical Universities.

Coloured Students.

There has been much talk recently on the training of native and coloured pharmacists. From the requests I have had to find apprenticeships for non-European boys there is a demand. The Durban City Council has been discussing the subject, and seeks to establish a pharmacy in a native location where a native can serve his apprenticeship. Whether any European chemist will be altruistic enough to establish such a pharmacy and give it up when the proposed ten-year leave expires, I do not know. But even then there is no place in the Union where the native could study pharmacy, since no native College has a Pharmacy School. What the solution is I cannot say, unless it is to raise a fund to send a few natives overseas to train.

The Apprenticeship Problem.

Much debate is still going on over apprenticeship. The new regulations provide that the apprentice will go to college straight from school, and then after passing the first year examination, serve his two-year period in a pharmacy. The country areas have the idea that once a boy goes away to college he won't return to the country. This is, of course, partially true, but the number of apprentices available in the big cities is strictly limited.

Dispute over the value of an apprenticeship also continues. Where there is an interested master then apprenticeship can be valuable and two years all too short. However, I have had apprentices who cannot wrap a bottle, and seem to have spent most of their time, after a brief training, in dispensing. Unfortunately having been so trained, they also regard an apprentice as cheap labour, and thus this type of training accumulates.

From the apprentice's point of view it is better to have the apprenticeship after the three years of college life. Since he will then be approximately 21, he is less likely to lie down under this sort of treatment, and being more mature will be able to glean a lot of knowledge unasked.

Business is Slackening.

Business in South Africa is in a peculiar state. Chemists and travellers report a certain slackening off in business. This recession is reflected in the share market, where values have dropped sharply, property prices have dropped, building societies have put up their rates. However, the picture is not all dull. The first uranium processing plant has been opened, and on the goldfields things look very rosy. The Free State fields already have a population of 133,000, and that is expected to reach the 500,000 mark. A future consumer market of no small value. The national income for last year is shown to be £1,114,000,000, an increase

TWO MOVES

NEW RECORD

THESE TWO



MODESS

Reduced to

2/11



Our policy has always been to sell the *highest* quality product at the *lowest* possible price. Now, with increased production, we announce a reduction in price for Australia's biggest selling sanitary napkin—MODESS—to 2/11. The new reduced price will bring big business to your pharmacy for this product. Get your full share by being the first to *stock up and display!* Let your customers know the saving they make on this high-class product! Leave it to them to compare the saving with other products!

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Be in these TWO MOVES with BIGGER

PRODUCT OF JOHNSON & JOHNSON WORLD'S

TO ESTABLISH SALES for SALES LEADERS

B Johnson's BABY POWDER

SLOGAN CONTEST



Never before in the history of Johnson's Baby Powder have we announced a bigger "sales-getter" than the Baby Powder Slogan Contest! The fact that most people want Johnson's Baby Powder (survey proves 7 out of 10 homes prefer it) makes this contest a "winner" for sales. Over the radio waves, in the press and magazines—almost everywhere—people are being told how they can win big prizes for Johnson's Baby Powder Slogans. Spectacular display material is available—see that it gets a good showing at your Pharmacy.

DISPLAYS for **RECORD SALES**

LARGEST MAKERS OF SURGICAL DRESSINGS

for the year of £174,800,000. It seems that we might anticipate a fall in income tax, but this tax seems to contradict the general rule that what goes up must come down!

Dispensing Survey.

Recently I have been making a survey of dispensing, more particularly in the country areas. It has been a great revelation to me to find to what extent the country chemist is excluded from dispensing. Some cases are reported where a country pharmacy has done as few as three scripts in a year. The reason? That the doctors are doing it all themselves. The same enquiry reveals that many doctors are trading to a large extent in such things as douches, syringes, dressings, etc.

Whilst this is sufficiently grave in itself, the effect it has upon the profession of pharmacy is more serious. A chemist is not permitted to train an apprentice until he has sufficient pharmaceutical business to afford him a proper training. This is one reason why the larger towns and cities have a monopoly on apprentices.

The law in South Africa requires that dispensing be done by a chemist, his apprentice or assistant under supervision. A doctor may dispense for himself or his partner. There is no doubt that in many cases the doctors use entirely untrained personnel to do this dispensing; natives and coloureds whose normal duties are tending gardens or driving a car find themselves pressed into the role of dispenser. In this town recently an unqualified man who made up medicine for sale was fined £50.

It will seem that the chemist enjoys a great deal of protection in his profession, except that the doctors may dispense. That one leak is sufficient to let most of the chemist's legitimate business run away. The doctor enjoys complete protection of his professional rights, and there has been talk of even subjecting the practice of massage, chiropody, etc., to medical surveillance.

In defence of doctors dispensing it has been said that it is today so simple and involves so many proprieties that it is a simple process. Any manufacturer of a proprietary will refute this. It is, of course, a reflection on the chemical knowledge of the medical profession that such a reasoning should be advanced. This knowledge is reflected in the modern standing of prescribing which any chemist will agree has reached an all-time nadir.

Market Report

LONDON MARKET REPORT.

September 11, 1952.

Business on the London drug market has continued on a modified scale during the past month, although there has been an increased number of enquiries for export.

Ergot has again been one of the interesting features. Forward rates have gone up to 16/- per lb., and old crop, after dropping back to 15/- per lb., is now 17/-.

Cascara has also swung upwards, and U.S. shippers require 275/- per cwt. against 215/- per cwt. earlier this year. Holders of last year's peel ask 315/- duty paid.

Agar has remained steady around 17/3 per lb., and there seems no prospect of any fall in price.

Among the pharmaceutical gums acacia is firmer. Up to 97/6 per cwt. is required by shippers of clean Kor-dofan sorts, and the spot rate is 105/- per cwt.

Tragacanth has been a weak market. First quality select ribbon is £140 per cwt., second quality £120, third quality £85-£90, fourth quality £75.

Cloves are scarce and dearer. Zanzibar are worth 10/- per lb. on the spot, with forward offers around 9/4 per lb., c.i.f.

Ginger is cheaper. African can be bought at 115/- per cwt. on the spot, and shipment rate is 105/-. The forward rate for the Jamaican variety is 137/6 per cwt., and No. 3 root is 145/- on the spot, and No. 2 is 155/-. Holders of No. 1 quality, which is scarce, ask up to 200/- per cwt.

Senega is dearer. Shippers quote 12/6 per lb., and last year's root is 14/- on the spot.

Quassia is easier at 35/- to 37/6 per cwt.

Among the pharmaceutical oils the fall in lemon-grass appears to have been halted. Spot rates are around 8/3 per lb., with forward offers 1/- per lb. below this figure.

Citronella is 4/- per lb. for the Ceylon variety, with forward prices at 3/2 per lb., c.i.f.

Aniseed has been in demand, but so far spot rates are unaltered at 8/9 per lb.

Peppermint is firm at 37/6 to 38/6 per lb. for the Chinese variety.

Manufacturers of bismuth salts have reduced their prices to home buyers to the following rates per lb. in 28-lb. lots: Carbonate 27/7, Salicylate 24/2, Subgallate 23/3, Subnitrate 23/11.

The only other change in pharmaceutical and fine chemicals has been the reduction of approximately 30/- per oz. for Emetine.

New rates for the Hydrochlorides are 1 oz. 249/-. 4 oz. 246/-. 16 oz. 243/-. and 32 oz. 240/-.

The Bismuth Iodide is half these rates for all quantities.

Trade Notes

SCHERING PTY. LTD.—REDUCED PRICES.

During the month the prices of "Proluton," "Proluton C," "Testoviron," "Ertuban" and "Talecid" were reduced. Details of the changes may be obtained from Schering Pty. Ltd., 52 Carrington street, Sydney.

ALLEN & HANBURYS (AUSTRALASIA) LTD.

The above company has requested that the under-mentioned alterations of prices as from October 1, 1952, be publicised:—

	Wholesale	Retail
Orange Juice	52/- doz.	6/6 bottle
Penicillin Solution Tablets 50's	9/6 each	
Penicillin Solution Tablets 100's	16/6 each	

B.D.H.—REDUCED PRICES.

A lengthy list of products reduced in price as from October 1, 1952, has been circulated by The British Drug Houses (Aust. Pty.) Ltd., of 250 Pitt street, Sydney.

The list covers a comprehensive range of the sex hormones.

Any chemist who has not received the list may obtain a copy on application to the company at the address given above.

NEW HAMILTON PRODUCTS.

Para-Amino Salicylic Acid Tablets; Sodium Para-Amino Salicylate Tablets and Capsules.

The Hamilton Laboratories Ltd., of 217 Flinders st., Adelaide, advises that the above new products are now available for distribution at the prices hereunder:—

P.A.S. Tablets:		Wholesale Price
0.5 Gramme	Bottle 500	80/- each
Sodium P.A.S. Tablets:		
7½ Grains	Bottle 500	77/6 each
Sodium P.A.S. Capsules:		
0.5 Gramme	Tin 500	80/- each

ANGLO-SWISS DRUG CO. PTY. LTD.

The well-known "Hommel"-Switzerland pharmaceuticals Cardilana, Cardipyrin and Pentapyrin have been reduced in price to meet the competition from digitalis preparations in the List of Pharmaceutical Benefits.

The manufacturers and distributors in Australia, Anglo-Swiss Drug Co. Pty. Ltd., wish to state, however, that "Hommel" cardiac preparations are being prescribed in conditions differing from those where Digitalis Pills or the single glycosides Digitoxin or Digoxin are indicated, and also for hypersensitive patients.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

LIST OF PHARMACEUTICAL PERIODICALS.

The Pharmaceutical Section of the Special Libraries Association of the Upjohn Company, Kalamazoo, Michigan, U.S.A., announces publication of the "Union List of Periodicals" in Pharmaceutical Libraries edited by Gertrude Bloomer, assisted by Alberta L. Brown, of the Upjohn Company, Myra Spinning, of the Bristol Laboratories, and Helen Loftus, of the Lilly Research Laboratories.

The list, which consists of 195 pages, is in mimeographed form and is priced at \$3.00. Copies are obtainable from Miss Helen Loftus, of the Lilly Research Laboratories, Indianapolis, U.S.A.

CODIPHEN PLUS.

G.P. Pty. Ltd., of 74 Mitchell road, Alexandria, Sydney, has added "Codiphen Plus" tablets to its range of ethical medical products.

"Codiphen Plus" contains codeine phosphate, acidum acetylsalicylicum, phenacetin and amphetamine sulphate, combining an effective, quick analgesic with an anti-depressant action providing rapid relief from pain with a general stimulating and beneficial effect on the emotional outlook. The manufacturer claims that this dual action makes "Codiphen Plus" a unique combination for dysmenorrhea and menstrual discomfort, and valuable in migraine, headache, neuralgia, and for the relief of pain in arthritis, rheumatism and pain of dental origin.

"Codiphen Plus" is packed in phials of 20 tablets costing 2/8 per phial, retailing at 4/-, and bottles of 100 tablets costing 12/- per bottle, retailing at 16/10, plus the usual dispensing fee when dispensed.

We are advised that the product is being extensively promoted with the medical profession by direct detailing by laboratory representatives, direct mailings to doctors, and advertisements in the medical journals.

BICKFORD'S NEW FACTORY.

A. M. Bickford & Sons Ltd., of Adelaide, is erecting a new factory and laboratory at West Croydon. Building has already commenced, and the premises will be ready for occupation within 18 months.

Particular attention has been given to the problem of natural lighting, and modern plant will be installed to meet increased demands and for future expansion

in the production of medical and pharmaceutical requirements.

In addition to the very extensive range of its own proprietaries manufactured, the company attends to the manufacture of Penicillin preparations for all the associate companies comprising Drug Houses of Australia Ltd., and large quantities are sent by air freight to all Australian capital cities daily.

Bickford's establishment dates back to 1840, and during 112 years of progressive attainment the company has established itself as one of Australia's greatest industrial enterprises.

Occupation of this modern and up-to-date works and research laboratories will enable the company to keep abreast of all developments in the pharmaceutical field.

DRUG HOUSES OF AUSTRALIA LTD.

New Research Facilities.

The new research building of Drug Houses of Australia Ltd. was opened on October 20, by Mr. Lionel A. Poole (Deputy Chairman of D.H.A. and Managing Director of the Sydney associate company) before a distinguished gathering of visitors, including Senator the Hon. W. H. Spooner, M.M. (Minister for National Development).

This building, situated at the Balmain Chemical Works of Elliotts and Australian Drug Pty. Ltd., permits centralisation of the research activities of the D.H.A. Group and marks a new phase in the progress of the parent company. Developmental work, which was formerly carried on at the individual factories of associate companies, will now be organised in this splendidly-equipped building. The wide variety of interests now embraced by Drug Houses of Australia Ltd. and the expansion of activities since the second world war created the need for systematic, centralised investigations utilising the full-time services of a staff suitably qualified for the work.

Chemical and biological laboratories, sterile laboratories for antibiotic and hormone investigations, pilot plant sections, design and drawing office and store-rooms are brought under one roof in the new building. It comprises three storeys, having a total floor area of 7520 sq. ft. Individual research laboratories are sited on each floor with a delightful view over the lower reaches of the Parramatta River. The balance of the floor space has not been "specialised" for particular operations, but, due to the ample provision of services, ready adaptability for particular pilot plant operations is feasible. A further feature of the building is the incorporation of a well in the top and second floors, which will allow the installation of distillation columns and adsorption towers with an overall height of 50 ft. from the ground floor to the under side of the roof.

In these days of extensive and intensive research, scientific investigations demand costly facilities, specialised techniques and strong direction. The highly-qualified research team of Drug Houses of Australia Ltd. is under the direction of Dr. T. F. West, D.Sc., Ph.D. (London), F.R.I.C., F.R.A.C.I., A.M.I.Chem.E. —



—Block by courtesy of News Ltd., Adelaide.

a member of the Board of Directors of the parent company. Dr. West is best known in the chemical world for his important researches on the chemistry of the active principles of pyrethrum flowers, although he has published some 40 research papers on the chemistry of the terpenoids and some books on technical subjects, which have been translated into several languages. He returned last year from a visit to Europe, Canada, and the United States.

Completion of the new building and facilities advances the plans and ideals of Sir Russell Grimwade, C.B.E., B.Sc., a former chairman of the company, and the present Chairman of Directors, Mr. G. H. Grimwade, M.A.(Cantab.), B.Sc.

OFFICIAL OPENING OF NEW FAULDING BUILDING.

Pharmacy was represented by Messrs. K. S. Porter, E. F. Lipsham, J. D. Garrett, W. C. Cotterell and K. Lawson at the opening of the new compressed medicine plant of F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd. at Adelaide. The guests were welcomed by a party of the company's executives, headed by Mr. A. F. Scammell (Managing Director) and Mr. R. G. Scammell.

The Mayor of Thebarton (Mr. Haddrick), who performed the ceremony, was introduced to the staff by



Official Party Inspecting Equipment in New Faulding Building.

Mr. A. F. Scammell. In his speech Mr. Haddrick mentioned the speed and energy displayed by the company in completing the building so quickly.

The guests, who included representatives from other major industries, were conducted round the new building.

This building, claimed to be the most modern compressing plant in Australia, incorporates several novel features. The walls are of cement, topped by a steel-framed asbestos roof, and all lighting and power outlets are contained in the walls and roof. By this means the partitions, which are glass topped and movable, may be rearranged to any new floor plan. The whole building is designed to give maximum natural light, helped by ceiling-set fluorescent tubes. Throughout the building a light value of 30 foot candles is maintained. This level compares with that used in top American businesses, and is stated to be far in excess of that employed elsewhere in Australia.

The building has a floor area of 6250 sq. ft., and houses 14 compressing machines, six coating pans, three

drying cupboards, as well as special rooms for producing hypodermic tablets and dangerous drugs. A maintenance room for servicing punches and dies has been included.

Over 30 million tablets, ranging in size from $\frac{1}{8}$ grain to $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., can be produced in one month at speeds ranging from 150 to 1500 tablets per minute. The department can produce over 12 tons of tablets per month.

After inspecting the plant, the guests were entertained at afternoon tea by the company executives. Mr. R. T. Patterson, the Laboratory Manager, thanked the Mayor and all the guests for their company. Mr. W. M. Mill, the Manager of the Adelaide Warehouse, seconded the vote of thanks to the Mayor and other guests.

NEW GLAXO PRODUCTS.

A New Pack for Glaxo No. 2.

Glaxo Laboratories (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. announces the introduction, on November 1, 1952, of a new pack for Glaxo No. 2, which replaces the old 1-lb. and 3-lb. tins for this food. The new pack, which contains 14-lb. of powder in a special heat-sealed cellophane bag, is an attractive carton, designed along the lines of the familiar blue tin.

The retail price of the new pack is 7/-, which, in addition to reducing the immediate outlay of the mother, also shows her a saving of the equivalent of 2d. per lb. on that of the 3-lb. tin. Compared with the price of the 1-lb. tin, the saving is equivalent to 8d. per lb.

The trade price of the new 14-lb. pack is 68/8 per dozen, and if pharmacists are unable to dispose of stocks of the tin packs, Glaxo Laboratories (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. is prepared to make a rebate to enable them, without loss to themselves, to sell at retail prices proportionate to that for the new 14-lb. pack.

The 1-lb. and 3-lb. tin packs are being retained for Glaxo No. 1. The company's policy of allowing full credit on out-of-date stock returned up to one month and half credit on that returned up to three months after expiry date, will apply to the new 14-lb. pack, as well as to the 1-lb. and 3-lb. tins.

Other New Glaxo Products.

The company also announces the introduction of three new preparations:—

Adexocal Tablets.—Each sugar-coated tablet contains 6000 units Vitamin A, 1000 units Vitamin D and 100 mg. Calcium.

Prices:—

	Retail	Trade
Bottles, 50	6/- each	48/- per doz.
Tins, 1000	75/- each	56/3 each

Polaxid Tablets.—Each tablet contains 50 mg. of isonicotinic acid hydrazide, the new chemo-therapeutic agent for the treatment of tuberculosis.

Prices:—

	Retail	Trade
Bottles, 100	16/9 each	144/- dozen
Tins, 1000	113/3 each	85/- each

Dionosil.—A new radiographic contrast agent, having what are claimed to be unique properties of special advantage in bronchography. Dionosil is an aqueous suspension of the n-propyl ester of 3:5-diiodo-pyridone-N-acetic acid. It is available in 20 cc. vials at the following prices:—

Retail	26/3 each
Trade	18/9 each

PRESCRIPTION PROPRIETARIES CARD SERVICE.

The 15 cards issued for the month of August contained references to the following products:—

A : 45	Advel Liquid.
B : 35	Bellapurin Suppositories.
B : 36	Bellergal.
C : 41	Co-Pherol-E Capsules.
F : 9	Folex.
I : 6	Iviron.
L : 12	Levophed.
M : 25	Mercazole.
O : 9	Oraluton.
P : 73	Penicrin Compound Powder.
P : 74	Pyropax.
R : 8	Riddobron Tablets.
S : 26	Sedival Forte.
V : 19	Vitavel A.
V : 20	Vitavel D.

The 15 cards issued for the month of September dealt with the following products:—

A : 46	Andrazide.
B : 37	Bacitracin Ophthalmic Ointment.
C : 42	Covitol Cream (D.H.A.).
C : 43	Cedilanid.
C : 44	Chlorothien.
D : 31	Daraprim.
D : 32	Duocillin.
N : 30	Nestosyl Ointment.
N : 31	Neosal "Pulverettes" No. (3043).
P : 75	Procillin A.S. (D.H.A.).
P : 76	Pentapen Ointment (D.H.A.).
P : 77	Pentapen Cream Stabilised.
P : 78	P.A.S. Acid.
S : 27	Stomubis.
S : 28	Siendex.

The 15 cards to be issued shortly for the month of October will contain references to the following products:—

B : 38	Butazolidin.
B : 39	Bacitracin Ointment.
C : 45	Cardilana (Hommel).
C : 46	Cortisone Ophthalmic Ointment (Ciba).
C : 47	Cortisone Ophthalmic (Ciba).
C : 48	Cilicaine Suspension.
C : 49	Chloroquine (Andrew's).
D : 33	Diophen.
D : 34	D.A.D.P.S.
E : 29	Ebucin.
E : 30	Ethinyl Oestradiol (Hamilton).
K : 8	Katonium.
M : 26	M.A.C. with Anaesthetic.
M : 27	Megalovel.
P : 79	Procillin Dry Fortified (600,000 Units) (D.H.A.).

Subscriptions (£3/3/-) to the P.P. Card Service may be commenced at any time while stocks last. Order, accompanied by cheque, should be addressed to: The Manager, "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy," 360 Swanston street, Melbourne.

P.A.T.A. PRICES

P.A.T.A. of N.S.W.

Notified 4/9/52—

General Section: Addition.

The Dr. Williams Medicine Co. of A'asia Pty. Ltd.			
Size	Retail		Wholesale
Family	6/6	Dr. Williams' Pink Pills ..	58/8 doz.

General Section: Alterations.

Clinton-Williams Pty. Ltd.	
2/8	Barbo
3/9	Colinated Foam Shampoo.

Size	Retail		Wholesale
Small	4/3	Crystolis Rapid	
Large	6/9	Crystolis Rapid.	
	3/6	Frostene.	
	6/6	Kintho.	
	4/3	Orlex Compound.	
	2/9	Velmol.	
		F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd.	
	3/9	Faulding's "Embrazac"	30/- doz.

Chemists' Section: Alterations.

Elliott & Australian Drug Pty. Ltd.			
4 oz.	4/6	Dexsal	30/- doz.
		Alfred Lawrence & Co. Ltd.	
1 lb.	4/6	Poulticine	36/- doz.
1 lb.	6/9	Poulticine	54/- doz.
2 lb.	12/-	Poulticine	96/- doz.
5 lb.	25/-	Poulticine	200/- doz.

Removals.

Adrenalin Hydrochloride Solution; Sulphanilamide Tablets, Syrup of Ammonium Mandelate; Vitamin B1, 25's, 100's and Vitamin B1 3 mgm. 25's.

Notified 15/9/52—

General Section: Alterations.

Hillcastle Pty. Ltd.			
7/3	Inecto Hair Dye		48/1 doz.
	Kertex Laboratories.		
Small	Luber's U-Jubes		6/3 doz.
Large	Luber's U-Jubes		18/- "

Chemists' Section: Alterations.

British Patent Perforated Paper Co. Pty. Ltd.			
1/6	"Wunda" Toilet Paper		11/6 doz.
	F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd.		
3/3	Faulding's Bitter Apple, Bay Rhum and Cantharides		21/3 "
	Karitan Products.		
1 lb.	5/3	Karil (tins)	51/3 doz.
1 lb.	3/6	Karilac A (packets)	33/11 "
1 lb.	3/6	Karilac Nos. 1, 2, 3 (packets) ..	33/11 "
1 lb.	5/3	Kariol (tins)	51/3 "

Notified 26/9/52—

Chemists' Section: Alterations.

Size	Retail		Wholesale
Bristol-Myers Co. Pty. Ltd.			
Small	1/8	Ipina Tooth Paste, under 1 doz.	12/6 doz.
		1 doz. lots	12/2 "
		6 doz. lots	11/10 "
		F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd.	
3/9	Digestone		30/- "
4/6	Hydrasil		36/- "
4/6	Hydrastil-Belladonna		36/- "

Notified 22/10/52—

Chemists' Section: Additions.

Size	Retail		Wholesale
H. F. Harvey Pty. Ltd.			
50 tabs.	6/-	Enselate, gr. 5	48/- doz.
		(Enteric Coated Soda Sal.)	
50 tabs.	6/-	Ensobarb, gr. 1/2	48/- "
		(Enteric Coated Phenobarb.)	
50 tabs.	9/-	Tebos	72/- "
		(Isonicotinic Acid Hydrasid.)	

Chemists' Section: Alterations.

Australian Soaps Ltd.			
Lancet Laboratories Products.			
1/2	"Lancet" Germicidal Soap 1% ..		9/3 "
1/7 1/2	"Lancet" Germicidal Soap 2% ..		11/7 "

General Section: Alterations.

F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd.			
No. 1		Magnoplasm, 2 oz.	20/6 "
No. 2	4/10	Magnoplasm, 5 1/2 oz.	38/9 "

Student Activities

Various State social events have naturally become less numerous with examinations so very close at hand. In fact some States have already begun examinations, and in N.S.W. the results of the Final have been announced. Congratulations to all successful students and the very best of luck to those whose examinations are impending.

Adelaide University Pharmacy Students' Association.

The more important social functions of this association are now completed, although it has been decided to hold an "after-exam." informal dance. The annual dinner was very successful, and a large proportion of students attended.

Early last month students had a day out in the Adelaide hills. Sport was played in the afternoon, and a wonderful tea was supplied before going on to a real style country barn dance at night.

Queensland Pharmacy Students' Society.

During the past week a Tripartite Committee has been interviewing lecturers, students, chemists and other bodies concerned with pharmaceutical education. Their findings should prove very interesting.

A film "The Life of Louis Pasteur" was shown by the Pharmaceutical Society in the Shell Theatre last month. Other films shown were "Prostigmin in Myasthenia Gravis" and "Foxgloves in Medicine."

Victorian Pharmacy Students' Association.

The annual ball of this Association was a great success, particularly the revue "Pills a' Poppin," which now appears to have become an annual feature. Official guests included the Dean of the College, Mr. Sissons, and College lecturers. V.P.S.A. members were very pleased to be given the opportunity of entertaining Mr. L. Cashen, a familiar figure to us all.

The Association is now recognised as the official student organisation of the College. Compulsory membership for students enrolled at the College has been effected.

Approximately 50 students have booked to attend the National Union Congress meeting from Victoria, and I should like to congratulate V.P.S.A. on this fine effort.

Sydney University Pharmaceutical Association.

A successful annual ball was also held by S.U.P.A., and many leading pharmaceutical figures were in attendance.

During the month approximately 70 students were shown Parke Davis & Co.'s factory, and a picnic was held on the 17th.

It is hoped that a large number of N.S.W. students will be able to attend Congress, January, 1953.

Congratulations to David Campbell, S.U.P.A. President, who was recently married.

Proposed Congress Programme, Saturday, January 3-13, 1953.

New Year's Eve dance: For early arrivals to Congress. Saturday, January 3: Proceed to Pt. Lonsdale.

During the time spent at Pt. Lonsdale various members of senior pharmacy will be invited down along with members of the lecturing staff.

Saturday, January 10: Return from Pt. Lonsdale.

Dance arranged for the evening at Pt. Ormond Kiosk.

Sunday, January 11: Trip to Canadian Bay.

Monday, January 12: Afternoon: Excursion over works of Monsanto Chemicals (Aust.) Ltd.

Evening: Open night at the Victorian College of Pharmacy.

Tuesday, January 13: Morning: Excursion to laboratories of Felton, Grintwade & Duerdins Pty. Ltd.

Afternoon: Last Congress session and election of officers.

Night: Dinner.

DALE E. WEEDMAN,
National Publicity Officer.

National Health Services

ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE.

The Senate was adjourned on October 1 on the motion of Senator McKenna, a former Minister of Health, for the purpose of discussing what was referred to as a matter of urgent public importance, namely:

"The retrograde nature of the Government's policy on hospital benefits for patients in private hospitals, in private and intermediate wards of public hospitals, and in the public wards of public hospitals."

The motion for the adjournment having been supported by four Senators, Senator McKenna addressed himself to the House. He explained that the motion was a formal device to enable a matter of urgency to be debated. That matter was explained in the formal motion which was presented.

In speaking to the motion, he was far more concerned with public hospitals and patients in private and intermediate wards of public hospitals than with other types of hospital. On August 20 of the present year the Government published very comprehensive regulations dealing with all these matters. They were complicated and confusing even to a well-informed reader. He would defy any ordinary elector after one reading to emerge from his perusal of the regulations with anything but a most confused mind on the subject of Hospital Benefits.

Senator McKenna then submitted that the Government should produce a pamphlet or document which would inform the people of Australia what they should do and what they should refrain from doing in order to qualify for pharmaceutical benefits. He deplored the situation which had arisen and which was such a departure from former conditions when every person in Australia who was ill could go into one of the best hospitals in the land and receive medical treatment of any kind.

Senator Wright interjected: "What is there to prevent that now?"

Continuing, Senator McKenna said:

If the Government would lay on the table of the Library copies of the agreements that have been made with the States, as it should have done long ago so that members of the Parliament could be fully informed of what the States were being asked to sign, I should be in a much happier position than I am in today and, I believe, in a much stronger position to criticise the Government's proposals. We are going backwards in more ways than one. Under the scheme that has been in operation until today, a person who fell ill collected his own insurance benefit and put the proceeds in his pocket. Under the new scheme which virtually compels people to insure, the proceeds have to be paid to a hospital by the insurance society. According to the regulations the benefit must be at least 6/- a day and citizens are obliged to insure accordingly. It is a completely retrograde step to deprive a person of an extra bit of money that he needs at a time when he is not only sick but also is cut off from his normal source of income.

MINISTER'S REPLY.

In replying to Senator McKenna, Senator Cooper, Minister for Repatriation, said in relation to hospital benefits, the Government's intention all along had been to introduce a contributory scheme which would bolster public morale and assist the finances of the hospitals. A revised hospital benefits scheme was necessary because of the drastic decline in hospital revenues, especially non-governmental revenues, during the past seven years. In 1944, 40 per cent. of total hospital expenditure was provided from Commonwealth and State revenue and the remaining 60 per cent. came from patients'

GUIDE TO NEW PRESCRIPTION PROPRIETARIES

Our aim in presenting these references is to give a summary in regard to each product, rather than all the information available in the manufacturers' literature. Their mention in these columns does not imply editorial recommendation. Prices are no longer quoted because of frequent fluctuations.

VITOBLAİN TABLETS

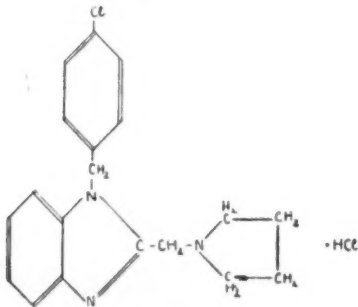
Supplier: Felton, Grimwade & Duerdins Pty. Ltd., Melbourne.
Composition: Tablets containing acetomenaphthone (vitamin K analogue) 10 mg. and nicotinic acid 30 mg.
Indications: Chilblains.
Dosage: Average cases: Adults, 1 to 2 tablets three times a day.
 Children 8 years and over, 1 tablet three times a day.
 Maintenance: Adults, 1 tablet three times a day.
 Children, 8 years and over, $\frac{1}{2}$ tablet three times a day.
 The tablets should be taken immediately after meals.
Pack: Bottles of 100 tablets.

PHOSPHALJEL

Supplier: Wyeth Inc., Sydney.
Composition: Colloidal suspension containing 4% aluminium phosphate. When added in excess to N/10 HCl at 37° C. produces a rise in pH from 1 to about 2.3 in less than 30 minutes. 30 cc. effectively reduces the acidity of not less than 150 c.c. of average gastric juice.
Indications: Peptic ulcer therapy, including the gasrojejunal ulcer.
Dosage: One to two tablespoons undiluted or with a little water every two hours between meals and at bedtime.
Pack: Bottles of 12 fl. oz.

ALLERCUR

Supplier: Schering Pty. Ltd., Sydney.
Composition: 1-p-chlorobenzene-2-pyrrolidylmethyl-benzimidazol chlorhydrate.
 An antihistaminic drug.



Indications: Allergic conditions.
Dosage: Oral: In general 1 dragee 3-4 times daily, swallowed whole with a little fluid. If needed to tide the patient over the night 2 dragees may be taken all at once.
 Parenteral: One ampoule 3-5 times daily, subcutaneously, intramuscularly or by slow intravenous injection. Intravenous injection gives an especially rapid onset of effect which may be instantaneous.
Pack: Dragees (20 mg.), tubes of 20.
 1 cc. ampoules (10 mg.), boxes of 3 and 20.

TABLETS

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higher **PROFITS**

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SPECIALITIES
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South Australia: Mr. W. P. Moore, c/o. Thody's Import & Agencies, Basement, Rundle Street, Adelaide.

Victoria: B. J. Goodman, c/o. Doward & Co., 326 Flinders Lane, Melbourne.

Western Australia: Geoff. Martin & Son, 64 Pier Street, Perth.

Queensland: S. H. Stewart, Hamilton Street, Brighton, Sandgate, Brisbane.

Tasmania: H. T. Grounds, 4 Victoria Street, Hobart.

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Petersham, N.S.W.

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LM 4670 SYDNEY

GUIDE TO NEW PRESCRIPTION PROPRIETARIES (Continued)

ACETOCID SOLUBLE OINTMENT

Supplier: British Schering Ltd., London.
Composition: Sulphacetamide Sodium B.P. 6% w/v in a neutral ointment base.
Indications: First aid dressing for burns and wounds.
Pack: Tubes of 1 oz.

SALAMIDE

Supplier: The Hamilton Laboratories Ltd., Adelaide.
Composition: Salicylamide ($C_6H_4.OH.CONH_2$).
Indications: Analgesic in rheumatoid arthritis, fibrositis, osteoarthritis, etc.
Dosage: Two to four tablets every four to eight hours day and night.
Pack: Tablets, bottles of 100.

TENSEDINE

Supplier: Bengue & Co. Ltd.
Composition: Each tablet contains pot borotart 0.15 gm., aminophylline 0.03 gm., liq. glyc. trinit. $\frac{1}{2}$ min., phenobarbitone 0.005 gm., acetylcholine brom. 0.0025 gm., ext. pancreas 0.10 gm.
Indications: Arterial hypertension, arteriosclerosis, aortitis, arteritis, Raynaud's disease.
Dosage: Two or three tablets at commencement of each of the three principal meals. To be swallowed whole with a little water.
Pack: Bottles of 48 tablets.

ISOBICIN

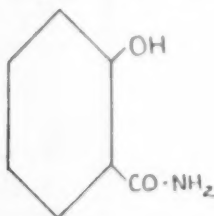
Supplier: Maggioni & Co. Ltd., Milan.
Composition: Isonicotinic acid hydrazide.
Indications: Tuberculosis.
Dosage: 1-4 tablets a day (max. daily dose 5 mg./Kg.), 1-2 ampoules a day intramuscularly.
Pack: Tablets (50 mg.), bottles of 50 and 1000. Ampoules (100 mg./2 c.c.), boxes of 5.

ETHIDOL SEDATIVE COMPOUND TABLETS

Supplier: British Schering Ltd., London.
Composition: Tablets containing ethinyl oestradiol 0.01 mg. and phenobarbitone 15 mg. (gr. $\frac{1}{4}$).
Indications: Disorders of the menopause, especially where nervous or anxiety symptoms are apparent.
Dosage: Mild cases: Up to five or six tablets daily. Moderate cases: Six to eight tablets daily. Severe cases: Six to eight tablets daily.
Pack: Bottles of 25, 100 and 500.

SALICYLAMIDE (Nicholas)

Supplier: Nicholas Pty. Ltd., Melbourne.
Composition: Salicylamide is chemically the amide of ortho-hydroxy-benzoic (salicylic) acid. It is neutral.



Indications: Rheumatic conditions and as a general analgesic.
Dosage: For rheumatic conditions: 2-4 tablets every 4 hours. For headaches, toothache, etc.: 2 tablets every 3-4 hours.
Pack: Tablets (0.5 Gm.), bottles of 100.

A Special Care Service dealing with Prescription Proprieties is now available. Subscription, £3/3/- per annum.

WHITE COATS

LADIES' UNIFORM in Pre-Shrunk Cesarine. Shank Buttons. S.S.W. to W. and O.S.



THIS STYLE in British Pre-Shrunk Drill.

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ADELAIDE: K. MACKENZIE, 99 Gouger Street. Phone: FA 2011.

HOBART: H. GROUNDS, 4 Victoria Street, Hobart 3511.

BRISBANE: L. W. D. ROCHAIX & CO., 90-92 Eagle Street. HO 877.

fees, hospital contribution schemes, donations, and subscriptions. In 1951, the total of Commonwealth and State payments had risen to more than 80 per cent. of hospital expenditure, and only 20 per cent. came from the other sources mentioned. Unfortunately, this drastic drop in non-governmental hospital revenue came at a time of rapidly rising costs, and every hospital balance-sheet went into the "red." Accordingly, the Government announced in January, 1951, that it would inaugurate a hospital benefits scheme which, in effect, would make 18/- a day available to hospitals from Commonwealth and voluntary insurance sources, compared with 8/- previously paid under the Commonwealth hospitals benefits scheme. The effect on hospital revenue of this proposal, which has now been accepted by five of the States, has been very striking. The total gain for combined Commonwealth and organisation benefits would give a revenue of £12,500,000 for 1952-53 compared with £6,800,000 in 1948-49. The gain will be brought about in this way: In January, 1952, the Government inaugurated the hospital benefits scheme, which, for the first time, brought in the non-profit-making voluntary organisations experienced in the handling of hospital benefits, including friendly societies and other organisations which are now dealing with the medical benefits scheme. In brief, the Commonwealth encourages general voluntary hospital insurance by supplementing its ordinary benefit of 8/- a day, which is available to all qualified patients, who are charged hospital fees, by an additional benefit of 4/- a day, if the patient is a contributor, or a dependant of a contributor, to a registered hospital insurance organisation. The cost of this membership of such organisations is very small indeed. For a patient to enjoy these benefits he must insure in an approved voluntary benefit organisation whose premiums range from 3d. to 6d. a week, according to the cover desired.

The following interesting particulars of amounts paid by the Commonwealth to the States in 1948-49 and estimates for expenditure under the same headings in 1952-53 were then presented by the Senator.

	1948-49.	1952-53. (estimated)
	£	£
Pharmaceutical benefits	149,000	7,000,000
Hospital benefits	6,886,000	12,420,000
Tuberculosis benefits (allowance and maintenance expenditure)	134,000	4,590,000
Pensioners' medical benefits (including medicines)	—	1,660,000
Medical benefits	—	1,450,000
Nutrition to children (free milk)	—	1,600,000
Mental institution benefits	—	520,000

Following interjections from Senator Tangney, Senator Cooper said that the Commonwealth did not insist on standard rules covering contributions and benefits. Its fundamental requirement is that a registered organisation shall provide hospital benefits from its own funds at a rate of not less than 6/- a day while a member or the dependant of a member is receiving hospital treatment. The Commonwealth benefit and subsidy, plus the organisation benefit, gives to a contributor a minimum weekly hospital benefit of £6/8/- a week, consisting of Commonwealth benefit and subsidy, £4/4/-, and organisation benefit, £2/2/-. Insurance by the patient is necessary to secure these benefits, and insurance can be effected by joining any one of the approved organisations. Some of the larger organisations offer more than one scale of benefit, so that many people are contributing for benefits of much more than £6/8/- a week. In order that they may provide substantial hospital benefits for a relatively low rate of contribution and, at the same time, maintain their financial stability, many of the organisations have probationary membership periods and maximum periods for benefits. Their

rules may also exclude benefits in the case of certain chronic complaints, or where the symptoms of an illness were in evidence at the time the member joined. So long as the member is financial, the Commonwealth additional benefit of 4/- a day is available, even though the organisation is not required to pay its own benefit.

QUESTIONS ON NATIONAL HEALTH SCHEME.

In the House of Representatives on September 18 Mr. Fitzgerald asked the Minister for Health upon notice:

1. When will the Parliament be informed of the national health scheme submitted to the health department of each State?
2. Where can details of the scheme be obtained?

Sir Earle Page replied as follows:

1. No national health scheme has been submitted to the health department of any State.

2. The health services being provided and those contemplated have been the subject of policy statements to this House from time to time. Any further details will be furnished on request to the Department of Health.

HOSPITAL POLICY AND THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE.

Senator Cooper, in the Upper House on September 23, dealt with the question asked by Senator Tangney on September 16.

The question asked by Senator Tangney was:

Can the Minister representing the Minister for Health state what arrangements have been made in all the States for their participation in the Commonwealth health scheme? What fees are charged in the various States in public hospital wards? Does the Minister approve of the practice of charging visitors to patients in public wards 6d. a visit, seeing that the patients are paying a minimum of £12/5/- a week for treatment? Is this practice general in public hospitals throughout Australia?

The Minister's reply was as follows:

Under the hospital benefits agreements which have been or are being negotiated, each State is having restored its complete authority to determine hospital policy within the State. Thus the question of charges for patients or visitors is entirely a matter for the State or hospital authority concerned.

UNIFORM REGISTRATION OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

On September 16 Senator Fraser asked in the Senate: "It is understood that discussions have taken place about the laying down of uniform conditions for the registering of drugs. Some time ago, the Minister for Trade and Customs was asked whether the Government would consider the advisability of instituting a uniform system of registration for medical practitioners. Can the Minister say whether the suggestion has been considered?"

Replying to this enquiry, Senator Cooper said on September 23, that the following reply had been furnished by the Minister of Health:

Except in respect of the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory, the Commonwealth has no jurisdiction over the registration of medical practitioners, which is a function of the various States.

Commonwealth and State News

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State News

Mr. R. Gwynne, of Lockleys, moved into new and larger premises during October.

Mr. C. Lyons returned from England in the early days of October after a very successful trip overseas.

Mr. E. Stevens spent a few weeks with Mr. W. G. Clarke, of Colonel Light Gardens.

Mr. L. Darwin has resigned his position with W. G. Clarke, of Colonel Light Gardens, and joined the staff of the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

Mr. Burlinson has been acting as locum for Mr. C. Pfeiffer and Mr. F. Butcher, of Hamley Bridge; similarly for Mr. R. Martin and Mr. E. Marsh, of Strathalbyn, and Mr. P. Head, of Kadina.

Mr. J. H. Hardy, who came from N.S.W., has resigned from the staff of the Repatriation Hospital, Daws road, and purchased the pharmacy conducted by Mr. W. Hearn in Hutt street, Adelaide.

RELIEVERS.

Mr. E. Plotz is now with Rungles' Pharmacy, Grenfell street, City.

Mr. A. W. Nicholas has relieved Mr. M. Pinchbeck, of White's Pharmacy, Gawler place, Mr. C. L. Daniel, of Croydon, and Mr. E. W. Sullivan, of Mayland.

Mr. B. Webber has relieved Mr. L. Davison, of Kilkeny, and Mr. R. Brougham, of Mitcham.

Mr. D. McQueen spent the month of October with Mr. E. Holle, of Peterborough.

Friendly Society Medical Association Managers.—Mr. G. Townsend to Mr. H. Frearson, of Unley; Miss B. Payne to Mr. D. Goscombe, of Reade Park; Mr. D. Moriarity to Mr. A. Doe, of Glenelg.

Marriage.—The marriage of Lynette Short to John Gilchrist was celebrated at St. Laurence's Church, North Adelaide, on October 18. Congratulations.

Loss of Dangerous Drugs.—Loss of a bottle of Phenobarbital Tablets was reported during the month. A warning was broadcast by the police.

Death from Spirits of Salts.—Hugh Curtis, 45, agent, of Mt. Osmond, died on September 2 after having drunk spirits of salts.

Child Drinks Turpentine.—A 16 months old boy, Thomas Richard, of St. Morris, was admitted to the Adelaide Children's Hospital on August 21 after swallowing turpentine. He was later reported as making satisfactory progress.

Boys Poisoned with Arsenic.—Brenton Tamalyn and Roger Palamartin, five and four years of age respectively, became ill after drinking water from an empty weed killer tin, and were rushed to the Adelaide Children's Hospital on September 4. Their condition the following day was reported as satisfactory.

BIRTHS

Bowey.—On October 9, at Henley Private Hospital, to Bobbie and Allan—a son.

Penhall (nee Willington).—To Jane, wife of D. F. J.—a son.

Wauchop.—On October 8, at Calvary Hospital, to Merle and Alan—twin daughters (one still-born).

Webb.—On October 7, at Mt. Barker Hospital, to Joan and Don—a daughter.
Congratulations.

RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR PHYSIOTHERAPISTS.

Under an arrangement consented to by the Executive Council on September 4, physiotherapists registered in New South Wales may practise in South Australia, and South Australian practitioners will be granted recognition in New South Wales.

CHEMISTS' GOLF DAY.

In ideal weather the annual competition for the Bickford Golf Cup was played at Mt. Lofty Golf Club on October 1.

A large number of chemists entered, the ultimate winner being Mr. R. M. T. Cox, of Norwood. Mr. Cox was presented with the Bickford Cup at a social evening held at the C.T.A. Club on October 8.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES AMENDING BILL.

In moving a second reading of the Friendly Societies Act Amending Bill in the Legislative Council on September 23, the Chief Secretary, Mr. McEwin, explained that the Bill provided that names of Friendly Societies which had gone out of existence might be struck off the schedule of the Act and new ones added.

Provision was made also for a fund for physiotherapeutic treatment of members of Friendly Societies and their dependants.

Another clause enables a Friendly Society to participate in the Commonwealth Scheme for hospital benefits.

DEATH OF MR. REUSCH.

"The News" of September 17 pays tribute to Mr. Arthur Reusch, a fourth generation Australian of German descent, whose enthusiasm and interest was a most important influence in the formation of the Nuriotopa War Memorial Community Centre.

Of Mr. Reusch "The News" says: "It is typical of the unselfish idealism of Mr. Arthur Reusch, 'chief apostle' of the Nuriotopa community movement, that he is content now to stay in the background, though still exercising his wise influence and putting forward an occasional inspiration for some new venture. . . . From him came much of the leadership which has given the town its many community enterprises, including the remarkably fine kindergarten building, baby health centre, caravan park, playground, and perhaps even more in the public eye, the Community Hotel (Vine Inn) and the Community Co-operative Store."

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Examination in Pharmaceutical Services.

The following third year students were awarded the top credits in the examination held late in September, and will receive their prizes at the next General Meeting of the Society:—

First Prize: Mr. I. Mitchels.

Second Prize: Miss Fay Orr.

Third Prize: Mr. P. Ball.

Fellowship Examination Results.

The following candidates were successful in the recent examination in the subject of Human Biology. The passes are set out in alphabetical order:—

A. E. Bowey*, (in addition to status previously granted), D. B. Goscombe, W. M. Grove, C. L. Higgins, J. C. Measday, B. F. Mildren*, K. S. Porter, G. R. Townsend*, J. C. White.

*Fellowship students. (Mr. F. Potts has retired from the course on opening a pharmacy in the country.)



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- **Ladies' Headache Brushes** ... *With genuine whalebone bristles.*
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- **Bath Brushes**
- **Powder Brushes**
- **KENT Toothbrushes**

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BRISBANE	119 Charlotte Street, B 2681	HOBART	4 Victoria Street, Hobart 3511
	and NEW ZEALAND		

HT. 15

These two Meds advertisements trebled enquiries for the Meds booklet!

You will notice that appeal in both cases is directed to single girls. The response has been spectacular, and here is the reason:

We point out that a recent American national survey of 900 leading gynecologists and obstetricians indicates that medical specialists overwhelmingly find Meds safe for normal women. Medical literature shows that when a single girl wears Meds there is absolutely no change in physical structure.

Invented by a physician, tampons are regularly worn by thousands of registered nurses.

Advertisements stress the advantages of wearing Meds.

- No belts . . . no pads . . . no pins.
- No revealing line.
- No possibility of odour.
- So easy to change.
- No chapping or chafing.

That is the message which is giving results—each week hundreds of girls are writing to ask about Meds. Hundreds of booklets are going to them with the full sales message.

Those girls must come to you!



THIS Meds COUNTER DISPLAY CAN TREBLE YOUR SALES!

Just as we have trebled our enquiries so you, too, can increase your sales by reason of—

(a) The increased interest due to our press advertising.

(b) The prominent display of the Meds counter display.

Always have it stocked—display it prominently—make it easy for your customers, who've already been told about Meds, to buy.

JOHNSON & JOHNSON

"THE MOST TRUSTED NAME IN SURGICAL DRESSINGS"



ON
both
all
new
the
give
in
and
of
see
you
ma-
the
use
now,
say,
bok-
to

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

PHARMACY IN THE OUTBACK

The chemist's shop, as it is more often called, was established at Ceduna in June, 1948. For many years before this date there had been no such facilities in that district. No qualified pharmacist thought it worth while to open such a business in the township. As a result, the medical officers were required to do their own dispensing, if the patients were to obtain the medicines prescribed. This added very considerably to the demands made upon the doctors, and was a tedious business for them.

B.C.A. (the Bush Church Aid Society) had often thought that a pharmacy, together with a fully equipped chemist's shop would provide a very valuable service to the people of the Ceduna district. The difficulty was to obtain a suitable person with the necessary qualifications. Miss Esme Page provided the solution, when, in 1948, she offered for the work of the Society.

The shop is situated on the main street of the township, and is divided into two sections. A curtain divides the dispensary from the sales department. It is a bright and attractive shop in which most of the goods you are able to buy at the suburban chemist's are to be found, and Miss Page has them displayed very attractively. When one enters her shop one feels that it is impossible to go out without making a purchase, everything looks so nice and tempting.

Miss Page attends to the dispensing for Penong and the Koonibba Mission, as well as for the area in the immediate vicinity of Ceduna. If you were travelling west you would have to go all the way to Kalgoorlie to meet the next pharmacist.

In this place, a worthwhile piece of service is being rendered by a Christian woman. It is sometimes hard for us to really feel that we are doing valuable service for the Kingdom of God by simply following our vocation in an out-of-the-way place, but we are glad that Miss Page is able to feel that she is doing just this.—From "The Real Australian," October, 1952.

NEW REGULATIONS UNDER THE PHARMACY ACT OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

These regulations are a consolidation of the many regulations which have become law since the original act passed in 1891. During the intervening 61 years there have been many changes, and the old regulations had become difficult to follow because of their disjointed character.

For greater convenience in administration, and for the benefit of students studying regulations for examinations in Forensic Pharmacy, a complete recast has therefore been made.

The fault of consecutive numbering has proved a nuisance in the old regulations, therefore the new regulations are divided into eight parts, with the individual regulations within each part designated by the letters of the alphabet. This system insures that future changes can be made without disturbing the general plan.

Part I—The Pharmacy Board.

The individual regulations within this part are identified by the letters (a) to (p), and deal with the triennial election of the Board, setting up the necessary machinery clauses for the holding of elections, the routine of holding meetings and the duties of the Registrar—all very largely as in previous regulations.

Part II—Indentures of Apprenticeship

This is a short Part, including regulations (a) to (d) only. These provide for a standard form of indentures, the conditions required of both prospective apprentices and prospective apprentices before signing the agree-

ment, and the records of apprentices which are required to be kept by the Registrar.

Part III—Training of Apprentices.

The individual regulations set out in detail the requirements under the headings of: (a) address at which apprenticeship to be served; (b) equipment required; (c) supervision of training; (d) offences of masters in relation to apprentices; (e) miscellaneous powers relating to apprenticeship.

Parts II and III together make it possible for persons lacking detailed knowledge to understand the routine which has been built up during the 20 years since the inauguration, in 1933, of the Diploma in Pharmacy of the University of Adelaide. Regulation (e) 5 is a new departure in that it requires apprentices to be taught in the pharmacies by means of the English language. This is a safeguard to the public, as it is well known New Australians are apt to prefer to use their own language when associating with their own countrymen.

Part IV—Examinations.

Regulations (a), (b) and (c) set out the routine for examinations and the subjects which comprise the present course at the University. This leads to the successful candidate receiving two documents, the Diploma in Pharmacy of the University of Adelaide, and the Standard Certificate of the Pharmacy Board of South Australia, because all examinations are recognised by both of those responsible bodies.

The concluding part of regulation (c) resolves a troublesome point of past years, in that the Board may now examine a candidate for the Final Examination (Pharmacy III) before the completion of apprenticeship and before the attaining of the age of 21 years.

This concession depends upon the Board granting permission, and also the completion of the four years' apprenticeship and/or the attaining of 21 years before registration as a pharmacist; in other words, the name of a successful candidate cannot be added to the Register of Pharmaceutical Chemists until all formalities have been completed.

This change is an important one, satisfying the reasonable ideal that artificial barriers should not be placed upon academic progress, and also coping with the problem of students who have been delayed in completing their apprenticeship by reason of military service.

Part V—Issue of Certificates.

These regulations set up the standard certificate of the Board, the details regarding the annual practising certificate, and the issuing of a list of pharmaceutical chemists to those who require such information.

Part VI—Reciprocal Arrangements.

This Part details the examination certificates of other Boards which may be accepted by the South Australian Board, and sets out the statutory declaration required in support of the original certificate of registration. A certificate of identity is provided for the authorisation of South Australians wishing to become registered in the other States, in England, New Zealand or Northern Ireland.

Part VII—Miscellaneous.

The specific regulations here cover a wide range of subject matter.

- (a) Duties of Managers and Relieving Managers. The new phrasing clarifies a point which has been in doubt. It is now clear that any pharmacist who takes charge of a pharmacy in any capacity is required to acquaint the Board of that fact.
- (b) Employees roll. This regulation allows the Board to compile a roll of employees, and requires the pharmacist in charge to supply the necessary data in respect to his pharmacy when so required by the Board.
- (c) Inspection of Pharmacies. Here the recast of the old provision is merely to give greater clarity to

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

the routine of appointing inspectors, and to the defining of their powers.

- (4) Dispensing. This is a long regulation of some nine sub-clauses, bringing together under the one heading items which have previously been distributed piecemeal in the old regulations. As a whole they reflect the very great changes which have taken place in the practice of pharmacy, in that none date back more than 20 years.

- (1) Requires dispensing to be carried out by a pharmacist or under his supervision.
- (2) Requires prescriptions to be copied into a permanent record.
- (3) Requires the entry to be carried out prior to delivery, and to be sufficiently identified by numbers, etc.
- (4) Requires prescriptions to be endorsed with identification marks and the name and address of the pharmacy.
- (5) Requires each package of medicine to carry the name of the pharmacy, the specific address of the place of dispensing, the name of the patient, the type of medicine, the directions for use, and the identification numbers as set out in the prescription book.

Note: Labels which bear more than one address can be used, but a sticker label indicating the address concerned with the dispensing of the medicine must be added.

- (6) Requires prescription records to be kept for two years.
- (7) Requires drug stocks to be clearly labelled.
- (8) Requires new or thoroughly cleaned containers to be used in dispensing. Old labels must be removed.
- (9) Requires individual packing of medicines dispatched by public transport systems.
- (e) Depots. The old regulation prohibiting depots for the delivery of medicine has been re-enacted as far as the metropolitan area is concerned, but in accordance with the policy of the Government, that every facility shall be given to country residents, provision has been made for depots situated more than 30 miles from the G.P.O., Adelaide. Application for a certificate of registration of a depot are required to be accompanied by a fee of £2/2/-; such certificates may be cancelled by the Board in the event of breaches of the Act or regulations, and, when another pharmacist sets up a place of business which will more adequately serve the area concerned.
- (f) Breach of Regulations. This regulation has not been changed; it provides a monetary penalty for offences.

Part VIII—The Schedules.

First Schedule: Nomination form for election to the Board.

Second Schedule: Form of voting paper for elections.

Third Schedule: Application for permission to conduct a depot. This includes the name, address of the occupier, and type of business conducted at the place where the depot is sought. Additional data required includes the method of delivery to the depot, any system of communication with the pharmacy, and a plan or diagram of the premises concerned.

These regulations are available in booklet form, printed and set up in a style which makes them easy to understand and suitable for use by students.

PHARMACY BOARD

Monthly Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of South Australia met at 25 King William street, Adelaide, on October 8, at 7.45 p.m.

Present.—Mr. K. S. Porter (President) in the Chair, Messrs. E. F. Lipsham, Walter C. Cotterell, G. L. Burns, B. F. Mildren, D. C. Hill, C. A. M. Reid, and the Registrar.

Hollevors.—Mr. B. E. Webber to Messrs. L. A. Davison and R. J. Brougham; Miss B. J. Payne to Mr. D. B. Goscombe; Mr. D. F. Moriarty to Mr. A. G. Doe; Mr. G. R. Townsend to Mr. H. T. Frearson; Mr. A. W. Nicholas to Messrs. M. J. Pinchbeck, C. L. Daniel and E. W. Sullivan; Mr. D. D. MacQueen to Mr. E. Hoile; Mr. R. L. Burlinson to Messrs. C. N. Pfeiffer, R. E. Martin, K. Marsh, F. Butcher and S. P. Head.

Finance.—Statement for the month of September was submitted and adopted, and accounts totalling £3/11/8 were passed for payment.

Education.—Sub-Committee reported on the conference held with employers' representatives dealing with the matters covered by the suggested alterations in the pharmacy course. Arrangements have been made for a conference with the employees' representatives.

Messrs. Lipsham and Porter reported on the recent visit to Sydney in connection with educational matters and the conference which was held in Sydney.

Registration of Premises.—Applications were received and notes from Messrs. R. F. Gwynne and E. A. Plotz.

Regulation 70.—Reports were received dealing with breaches of Regulation 70, and the Registrar was instructed to write to the pharmacists concerned forwarding a copy of the regulation, and pointing out the direction in which the persons concerned appeared to be not complying with the requirements.

Advertising.—Letters were received from two pharmacists regretting that they had inadvertently failed to comply with the terms of the resolution passed at the Brisbane Conference, and indicating their complete willingness to meet with the requirements of the Board in this direction.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia met at 25 King William street, Adelaide, on October 7, at 7.45 p.m.

Present.—Mr. J. D. Garrett (President) in the Chair, Messrs. Walter C. Cotterell, E. F. Lipsham, K. S. Porter, V. L. Mitchell, A. C. Holloway, J. D. Duncan, and the Secretary.

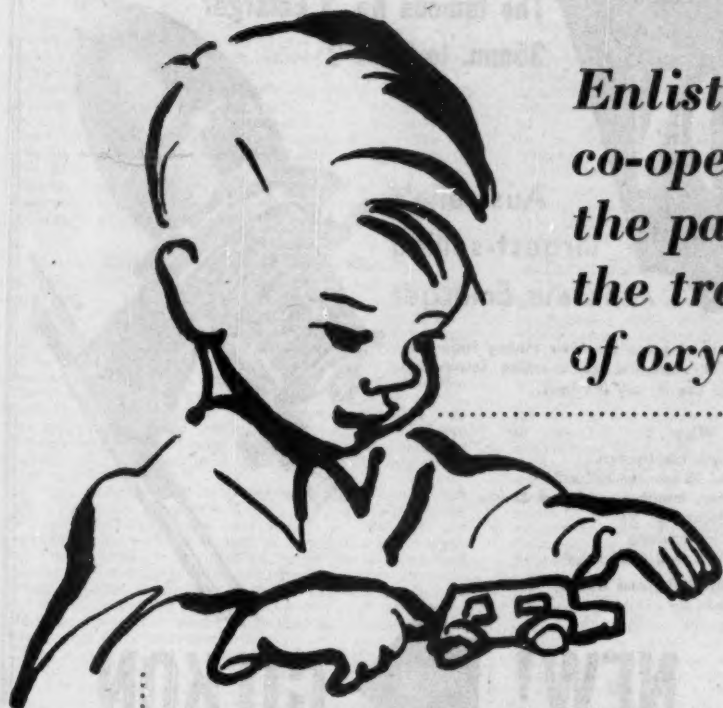
Squatting.—Report was received from a registered pharmaceutical chemist alleging the possibility of "squatting" by another pharmacist. It was decided that the members of the Advisory Committee should interview the parties concerned.

Finance.—Statement for the month of September was submitted and adopted, and accounts totalling £524/13/11 were passed for payment.

Pharmaceutical Education.—Sub-Committee reported on the conference held with employers' representatives dealing with the matters covered by the suggested alterations in the pharmacy course. Arrangements have been made for a conference with the employees' representatives.

Messrs. Lipsham and Porter reported on the recent visit to Sydney in connection with educational matters and the conference which was held in Sydney.

Post Graduate Lectures.—Report was received from the lecturer together with the results of the recent examination. Consideration was given to the repeating of the lectures and the basis on which such might be arranged.



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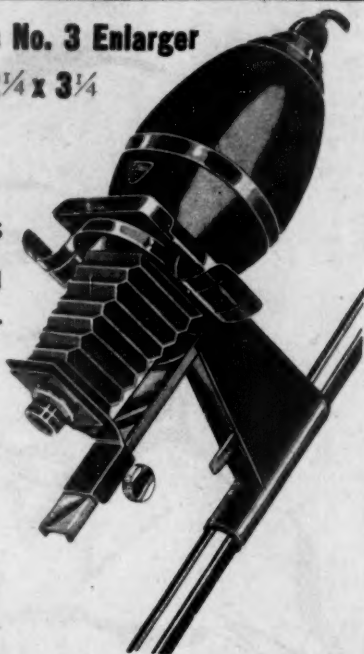
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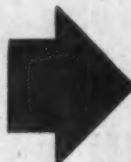
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SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

Kodak Travelling Scholarship.—Applications have been received from three members of the Society, and these applications have been referred to the Sub-Committee for a recommendation.

Pharmaceutical Services.—Report was submitted dealing with examination results. This report indicated a most pleasing improvement over the previous series. The lectures are to be repeated in 1953.

Prize winners were as follows:—Mr. J. R. Mitchels, Miss F. P. Orr, Mr. G. B. Ball.

Gifts.—Mr. Lipsham reported on gifts of drugs and druggists' sundries to the Pharmacy Department of the University of Adelaide.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

[This report is a continuation of the brief statement published last month. Lack of space made it impractical to publish the full report in the September issue.—Ed.]

Approximately 80 members and fourth year students attended the meeting, which was held on August 27.

The President, Mr. J. D. Garrett, occupied the chair. **Business Arising from the Minutes of Last Meeting.**

1. The request for consideration of reciprocal agreements between the State Pharmaceutical Societies, so that members could transfer to different parts of the Commonwealth, had been forwarded to the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies for discussion at their next meeting.

2. The failure to price prescriptions in New South Wales. A letter from the N.S.W. Branch of the Guild set out that N.S.W. members would be asked in the next Guild Bulletin to attend to this essential matter.

3. The request for a consideration of the scale of fees charged for coaching by a member had been investigated, in spite of the fact that the Council recognises that it has no right to define the terms of a private arrangement of this nature, and that no complaint had been received from a student.

The Council wished to state that the enquiries showed that the fees were fair and reasonable, had been fixed after consultation with expert authorities, and were accepted by the students before commencing tuition.

The fees were not based upon the ordinary system of one hour per session, so that sessions could, and were, extended to as long as three hours, quite apart from the time necessarily spent in preparation for each period of tuition.

4. The Secretary, Mr. H. C. Martin, reported that members of the Council had met the Inspector of the Department of Health, Mr. R. C. McCarthy, in conference regarding Third Schedule Poisons and the publication by the Central Board of Health of an up-to-date booklet setting out those preparations which are restricted to sale on prescriptions.

As an outcome, the Council could report that good progress was being made with this important project, and that it was proposed to publish in loose-leaf form and to include Dangerous Drugs.

The Report of the President.

The President's report has been summarised as follows:—

The annual election did not bring forward new nominees; hence the retiring Councillors, Messrs. Cotterell, Lipsham and Porter, were re-elected.

The membership now stands at 437, which includes an increase of 39 over last year.

The educational programme continues to dominate the thoughts of the members of the Council, particularly in joint discussions with members of the Pharmacy Board and of the State Branch Committee of the Guild. The Interstate visits of educationists have already been reported in the Journal—"It would appear that trends in pharmaceutical education indicate that, not only must the pharmacist be adequately trained in

all matters which come under the conduct of a pharmacy, but he must also have a broader education which will enable him to use his talents as a pharmacist, and also to make a worthwhile contribution to the community as a whole."

During the past year the Council has been interested in several difficulties regarding the advertising of dispensing services, and so strongly urges members to conform to the letter and spirit of the Brisbane Conference resolution to the effect: "That this Council is of the opinion that any form of advertising relating to dispensing services except the use of the words 'Dispensing Chemist' and hours of service is inconsistent with proper professional conduct."

Two series of post-graduate lectures were organised during the year. Those by Mr. Trevor Jones had proved very successful, and broken entirely new ground. The lectures by Mr. K. Johnson had proved so popular that all applicants could not be accommodated. The results of the examination were not yet available.

The President spoke of the Kodak Scholarship; the visit of Mr. Mapletorpe; gifts donated to the Pharmacy Department; the election of Mr. R. A. Anderson as Vice-President of Section "O"; squatting; and the failure of students to be reasonably versatile in the use of the Guild Pricing System; and concluded with the question:

"What of the future? We can look forward confidently to the future of our Society, which will grow in numbers and further develop its activities in the educational field. By improving our course, and introducing some aspects of the humanities, we should turn out pharmacists of the future well trained to take their place in the order of things to come. Furthermore, I would like to ask members to support their executives with all their power, with ideas and criticisms of interest and of a constructive nature."

Financial Statements.

The Treasurer, Mr. V. L. Mitchell, then submitted the annual financial statements, and stated that, although a deficit had been incurred for the current year, he expected the new and higher subscription would give a better position next year.

The deficit had been inevitable because of increased wages for the administrative staff and increased cost of distributing the Journal of Pharmacy to members. On the educational side, a reduction in the number of students meant less revenue in that section of the funds.

Mr. J. Retallick seconded the Treasurer's motion for the adoption of the reports, and this was carried without further discussion.

Election of Auditor.

Mr. Walter C. Cotterell, supported by Mr. V. Fountain, obtained the resolution for the reappointment of the Auditor, Mr. K. G. Oswald.

Women Pharmacists' Association Proposed.

Under the item of any other business, Mrs. Morrow (nee Helen Pritchard) spoke of the idea of forming a Women Pharmacists' Association in South Australia.

She had written to Miss Chalmers, of the Queensland Association, and obtained a copy of their constitution, and wished to organise a meeting of women pharmacists.

Mr. Garrett assured Mrs. Morrow that the Council would like to see such an Association formed, and would support those who were interesting themselves in the matter.

Discussion on Increase of Subscription.

The Secretary reported that a member had telephoned him asking that a further increase of fees should be considered at the meeting because conditions were appropriate; an increase would allow the building up of funds and larger allocations to the Benevolent Fund. Mr. V. Fountain supported the suggestion. Mr. D. McLaren said he did not agree with the suggestion. The Benevolent Fund had not been subjected to major

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

calls, and the need was not great. The matter was then dropped.

Sale of Restricted Drugs.

Mr. D. McLaren, Mr. K. Johnson and Mr. R. Patrick spoke of the unsatisfactory manner in which antihistamines, barbiturates and similar drugs were sold. (This discussion caused the passing of the resolution reported in the August Journal which requested the Council to ask for a stricter policing of the regulations.)

Delay in Publication of Regulations.

Messrs. N. Russell and S. A. Downie spoke of the trouble caused by the delay in printing up-to-date copies of Regulations under the Foods and Drugs Act, and the Secretary stated that everything possible had been done to expedite the reprints.

Mr. Cotterell made a statement regarding the wide scope of the proposed booklet dealing with restricted drugs, and stressed the value of the very thorough and painstaking work being done by Mr. McCarthy in compiling this valuable aid to members.

R.A.H. Pharmacopoeia.

Mr. W. Ey asked when copies of the new pharmacopoeia of the Royal Adelaide Hospital would be available. Mr. J. Maxwell, of the Pharmacy Department of that hospital, replied to the effect that the book was in the hands of the Government Printer.

The President then closed the meeting, and asked Mr. von Bertouch, of Kodak Ltd., to show two films loaned by Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd. These were "The Birth of a Drug" and "Industrial Dermatitis."

Mr. Garrett thanked the I.C.I. for the loan of the films, Mr. Wenson, of Kodak, for the use of the projector, and Mr. von Bertouch for his attendance and help at the meeting. The company then adjourned for supper.

THE GUILD

S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the South Australian Branch of the Guild met at 195 Victoria square, Adelaide, on October 14, at 7.45 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. Walter C. Cotterell (President), V. L. Mitchell, J. D. Garrett, G. K. F. Scott, A. C. Holloway, E. L. Miller, H. G. Collyer, A. A. Russell, R. R. Patrick, and the Secretary.

New Members Elected.—Geo. Wood Pharmacy (J. A. Rhymer, manager), 214 Rundle street, Adelaide; J. Cummings & N. Brunskill, Todd street, Alice Springs, N.T.; and T. M. Curnow, 322 Cross roads, Clarence Park.

Correspondence.—Federal Office, re (1) Decontrol of dispensing: Secretary reported that he had attended to this matter, and would contact the Prices Commissioner again. (2) Dispensing fees 19/9/52: Received. (3) Re R. N. Griffiths: Secretary to write and accept re-nomination.

Public Relations Secretariat: (1) Letter re Sir Earle Page: Received with approval. (2) Annual Meeting of P.R. Committee: Received and discussed in detail.

Federal Merchandising Service, re various matters, including: (1) Dual Offer: Secretary to ascertain if dual offer was genuine in view of conflicting reports. (2) Chemist Only Lines: Received. (3) Nada Toothbrushes: Received with pleasure.

Federal Delegate's Report.—The Federal Delegate (Mr. Walter C. Cotterell) presented the agenda for the Federal Council Meeting. This was considered in detail, and the Federal Delegate advised on the views of this branch in relation to the various matters contained therein.

A general resume was given on the following:—A letter from Dr. Metcalfe on the incidence of prescribing. A letter from the Department of Health to the Federal President on the wastage table and dispensing fees. A letter from Mr. E. Scott to Sir Earle Page. New regulations covering doctors' supplies. Mr. Cotterell was thanked accordingly.

Pricing Officer's Report.—The Pricing Officer, Mr. A. Russell, gave a general resume of pricing.

Financial.—The Financial Statement was presented and approved, and accounts totalling £740/1/- were passed for payment.

Customs Department.—Secretary to write to the Customs Department objecting to the contained matter and to also refer the letter to Federal Office.

General.—Resolved that the Secretary endeavour to have the Guild's name more prominently displayed in the Telephone Directory.

A discussion took place relative to the distribution by J. & J. of its various lines.

Resolved that from now on the meetings of the S.B.C. be held on the second Monday of each month.

Resolved that the next country visit of the S.B.C. be at Penola on Sunday, November 30.

It was suggested that the Secretary should endeavour to have printed on the tax cards that such lines as baby foods and cosmetics are not allowed as deductions. The meeting closed.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State News

Congratulations to Mr. R. H. Bingham on his appointment as a Justice of the Peace.

Mr. E. E. Down has been assisting at Messrs. Healy's and Halsey's pharmacies during recent weeks.

Mr. D. C. Tyler, of Nott's Pharmacy, is now in charge of Mr. J. C. Ward's branch pharmacy at Scarborough.

Mr. J. R. Temby, of Guildford, also had to receive hospital treatment last month. Miss A. Elsworth acted as locum.

Mr. Ian Dick, after relieving at Sargent's Pharmacy, Maylands, last month, is now with Mr. S. J. Wilson, of Como.

Mr. A. D. Plenderleith has been relieving Messrs. J. Burke, of Bunbury, and E. A. Taylor, of Boyup Brook, during the past month.

After doing six months' relieving work in various country towns, Miss E. M. Youngs has returned to Victoria.

Mr. E. M. Palmer has accepted the vacant position at Hollywood Hospital caused by the death of Mr. H. A. McCrae.

Cosmetics Without Sales Tax.—Heard at the counter: "My wife is having 'deep thoroughfare' treatment."

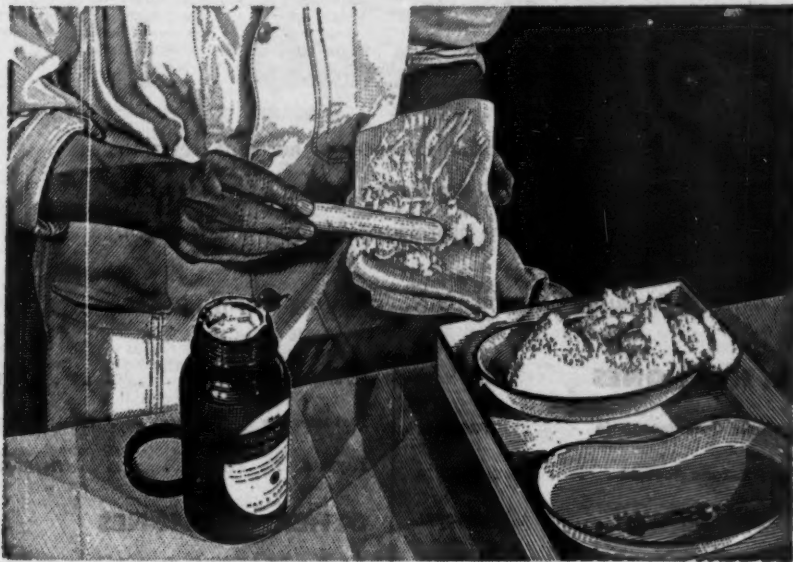
Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Keys, of Rivervale, left by the "Duntroon" on October 3 for five weeks' holiday in the eastern States. Mr. Barry Robson is in charge of the pharmacy.

We regret that Mr. B. B. Caldwell had to enter hospital recently. Latest reports are that he is progressing favourably. Mr. H. S. M. Wheeler, a recent arrival from Victoria, is in charge of the pharmacy.

Miss M. Turner, of Tilly's Pharmacy, has accepted a position at Harrison's Pharmacy, Leederville. The vacancy at Tilly's Pharmacy has been filled by Mr. D. Sibbald, of Royal Perth Hospital.

We extend our sympathy to Mr. H. D. Fitch, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of W.A., on the death of his father, which occurred on October 8. Several W.A. pharmacists were amongst the large number of friends who attended the funeral.

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA (Continued)

His many friends will be glad to learn that Dr. E. M. Watson is home from hospital and making satisfactory progress. Subject to medical advice, Dr. and Mrs. Watson intend proceeding on their overseas trip in December as previously planned.

Spirit Supplies.—Advice has been received from the Customs Department intimating that chemists will not be permitted to purchase more than two gallons of rectified spirit per month without security being furnished. Furthermore, the supplier must be nominated and all supplies obtained from one warehouse only. If additional supplies are required, written application should be made to the Customs Department stating the reason for increased supplies.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Dr. W. B. Gray was the speaker at the September meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of W.A., and his subject, "Psychiatry," proved to be most interesting. Explanations of various types of treatment, particularly those involving the use of drugs, occupied most of the time. About 50 members attended, and the visitors included Dr. J. T. Thompson, Inspector-General of Insane in this State.

By the time this report is published only one meeting, which will be held on November 26, will remain to complete the 1952 series.

This year's lectures have been of a very high standard and attendances have been excellent. The speaker on November 26 will be Inspector A. J. Baird, of the C.I.B., and his subject, "Modern Crime Detection," is expected to attract a very large audience.

PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL MEETING.

Deaths from Poisoning.—At the Pharmaceutical Council meeting held on October 7 advice was received that the following persons had died from poisoning during July:—M. Behich, caustic soda; A. J. Watson, Paris green; J. B. Stevenson, bromural.

Heroin.—At the same meeting of the Pharmaceutical Council (7/10/52) the following resolution concerning the use of Heroin in patent and proprietary medicines was carried: "That the Council rescind the resolution carried on August 7, 1951, and do now agree to the request of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria to prohibit the sale of patent or proprietary medicine containing Heroin."

The death of Mr. H. A. McCrae and the resignation of Miss E. M. Youngs were recorded.

The Council also accepted an invitation to be represented at a Conference on Pharmaceutical Education to be held in Adelaide early in 1953.

THE GUILD

S.B.C.
Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the Western Australian Branch of the Guild met at 51 King street, Perth, on October 14, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. G. H. Dallimore (Chair), G. D. T. Allan, R. Dalby, W. Lewis, R. Healy, J. Bodkin and R. Edinger.

Addressograph.—The Addressograph had been purchased and was now in use.

Phonograms.—Reply received and passed on to T. & C. Committee.

Dispensing Bottles.—Resolved that, owing to the recent increase in price a new list be published.

Sod. Bromide and Hexamine.—Resolved that the Secretary check with the suppliers with regard to impurities in Sod. Bromide and Hexamine.

Cocaine.—Recommended that the Secretary check with the Department of Health, re recording fee of Cocaine.

Taxation Folders.—Recommended that an article be published requesting chemists to refrain from stamping Taxation Folders on the outside with their stamp.

Sugarless Pastilles.—Recommended that the Secretary contact the local agent re the percentage of profit on Allen & Hanbury's Sugarless Pastilles.

Steradent and Disprin.—Recommended that the Secretary contact the agents re the sale of Steradent and Disprin in a grocer's shop at Tuart Hill.

Insecto Prices.—Recommended that the secretary contact the local agent re the prices of Insecto products.

Trade and Commerce.—Mr. Allan tabled his report of the last meeting of the Trade and Commerce Committee. The main recommendations were:—

(1) That a new price for dispensing bottles be published.

(2) That the various questions regarding "Gileseal" packs be handled by Mr. Allan when attending the Federal Council meeting.

(3) T. & C. Committee's appreciation of the work done by the Guild Office and the Pricing Committee.

Victoria Park.—Mr. Turner reported that he had been successful in holding the inaugural meeting of the Victoria Park Zone, and that it was well attended. Subsequent meetings would be held in members' homes in rotation.

Price structures were discussed and their recommendations were forwarded to the Pricing Committee.

Federal Council Agenda.—The Federal Council agenda was discussed at length, and the Committee's recommendations were conveyed to the Federal delegate.

Sera.—Resolved that Sera be removed from the retail price list as they were incorrect, and that the prices as in ethical list be adhered to.

Bottles.—Recommended that 3d. be the maximum price allowed to patient on bottles returned.

The meeting closed at 11.45 p.m.

TASMANIA

PHARMACY BOARD

Monthly
Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of Tasmania met at 65 Murray street, Hobart, on October 13, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. H. H. Pearce (President), T. A. Stephens, E. H. Shield, D. R. Crisp, A. P. Brammall and Registrar.

Examinations.—The Registrar reported that approval of the suggested dates for the November Examinations had been received from the Superintendent of Technical Education, also that Dr. Burgin had reported that rooms would be available at the Technical College as required.

Mr. Pearce undertook to arrange for two additional sets of scales to be loaned for the examination, and it was decided that six sets of grain weights should be purchased.

The suggestion from the Examiners' meeting that pricing of prescriptions should be included as part of the Dispensing Examination was discussed. Members considered that it was not desirable to include such pricing under Dispensing. The matter was left for further consideration when discussing the new syllabus.

A further suggestion from the Examiners' meeting that a "Code of Marking" should be established throughout Australia was discussed, and it was decided to refer this matter to the Pharmaceutical So-

TASMANIA (Continued)

ciety, and also to write to Mr. Kent regarding the position in other States.

The resignation of Mr. A. P. Brammall from the Board of Examiners was received with regret, and appreciation was expressed for the assistance which he had given to the Board as an Examiner.

A letter was received from Mr. F. H. Cartledge stating that Mr. W. D. Rumney had been appointed Examiner for Posology and Toxicology written, and Mr. C. A. Calver for Prescription Reading written.

New Syllabus.—A letter was received from the Superintendent of Technical Education, advising that students gaining a higher pass in Matriculation Chemistry, Physics and Biology at the end of the first year Pharmacy Course would qualify for Matriculation at the University of Tasmania, provided they had passes in English Expression and two other subjects at the Schools Board Standard.

A letter was received from the Pharmaceutical Society setting out points which they considered required attention in the proposed new syllabus.

After discussing the possible amendments necessary to the Pharmacy Act and Regulations to give effect to the proposed Pharmacy Course, it was decided that legal opinion be sought on the effect of Section 24, Clause 3.

It was decided that a special meeting should be held on October 20, for consideration of the proposed new syllabus.

Indentures.—A letter was received from Mr. G. H. Anderson, requesting that the Board should reconsider its decision not to issue a new certificate to Miss Janet Anderson under her full name, Janet Baird Anderson.

After further discussing this matter the meeting decided to accede to Mr. Anderson's request to issue a new diploma on the surrender of the one held and on payment of 10/6 expenses, but that the issue of this certificate shall not be taken as a precedent by the Board.

Pharmaceutical Register.—Re Siegfried E. Harder.—A letter was received from Mr. Harder, stating that he had qualified as a chemist in Germany, but that all his papers had been destroyed during the war years. It was decided that Mr. Harder would be accepted as eligible to sit for the Examinations of this Board, and that he would have to serve a four-year apprenticeship.

Re Nicholas Fenyo.—Registered pharmacist in Czechoslovakia, having worked in Australian pharmacies as a dispenser for 19 months; requested information as to requirements for registration in Tasmania. The meeting decided that he be accepted for admission to the examinations, and to serve a four-year apprenticeship.

Re Nicholas Sulyi.—Qualified Medical Practitioner, of Hungary. The meeting decided that this case should be referred to Dr. Burgin for a personal interview to determine what concession can be granted towards registration.

Re A. J. Wright.—A reply was received from Mr. Wright, stating that he had been employed as a dispenser by the Repatriation Commission for the past 15 years and was registered as a pharmacist in Queensland, where he had regularly paid his annual subscription. As he was retiring in the next three months, he considered that the Board should take up with the Repatriation Commission the matter of the registration of his successor.

Finance.—The financial statement presented to the meeting showed a debit balance of £20/17/4, with liabilities of £49/3/5, which were passed for payment.

Mr. Pearce reported that the Bonds which had been held in the names of Mr. Wallace and Mr. J. H. Gould were now in the name of the Commercial Bank Limited, where they were held as security against overdraft. Mr. Wallace had advised that the Board should await the new Commonwealth Loan, and then invest £200

(face value) from the Savings Bank account. The matter was left in his hands.

Pharmacy Act.—A letter from the Chief Secretary advised that steps were being taken to amend details regarding the proposed new annual subscription.

Poisons Act.—Letters were received from Menley & James (Col.) Ltd. re Adrenaline 1/5000 W/W.

From Willis L. Fysh re Paraphenylenediamine.

From Lifesavers Limited regarding Laryngoids.

From the Chief Secretary's Department, advising that regulations regarding Heroin were being amended. A pesticides quarterly supplement was received.

The meeting closed at 11.30 p.m.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania met at 65 Murray street, Hobart, on September 30, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. A. G. Gould (Chairman), E. H. Shield, C. A. Robertson, K. H. Jenkins, H. H. Pearce, and Secretary.

Mr. Gould extended a welcome to Mr. Pearce, President of the Pharmacy Board, who had come to the meeting to assist with the consideration of the syllabus.

Syllabus.—The new syllabus having been circulated, Mr. Gould asked for any comments.

Mr. Shield expressed the hope that students were not being asked to do too much in the new syllabus.

Mr. Pearce assured the meeting that the volume of work had been gauged with that done in the Technical College courses and would not be beyond any student.

Discussion followed on many points, and it was decided to make the following recommendations to the Pharmacy Board:—

(1) That the first year student must obtain a higher pass in two of the three subjects.

(2) Under examination in Pharmacy (II) there should be included a three-hour Practical Dispensing Examination.

(3) It is considered desirable that a reference to the year end examination or accreditation should be made against each year on the summary setting out the Pharmacy Course.

(4) It is hoped that the Board will adopt the practice of one Examination at the end of each year, with a supplementary for failures in February or March of the succeeding year.

(5) The number of years in which the course must be completed should be limited.

Pharmaceutical Education Conference.—A letter was received from the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand covering a report from the conference held in Sydney regarding Pharmaceutical Education, and directing our attention to the invitation from the South Australian representatives to a further conference in Adelaide early next year. The meeting decided that an approach should be made to see if Dr. Burgin and another member of the Advisory Committee could be sent to this important conference.

Financial.—Accounts totalling £22/8/10 were passed for payment, and the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

THE GUILD

General Meeting

A general meeting of members of the Tasmanian Branch of the Guild was held at 73 Liverpool street, Hobart, on October 16, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Mr. L. W. Palfreyman (Chairman); Miss E. M. Hurst, Miss M. L. Williams, Messrs. D. R. Crisp, A. G. Gould, A. K. Smith, K. H. Jenkins, F. J. Holder, J. M. Beaumont, C. B. Dillon, C. A. Robertson, J. H. Gould, and the Secretary.



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TASMANIA (Continued)

The Chairman extended a welcome to Mr. A. K. Smith, attending his first meeting of the Guild.

Holiday Notices.—A draft for a permanent Holiday Notice prepared by Mr. Beaumont was discussed and approved for printing.

Midlands Meeting.—Members considered the suggestion from the Northern Sub-Branch for a meeting to be held in November. It was agreed that if suitable to the Northern members this meeting should be held on November 30, at Campbell Town.

Federal Council Meeting.—Each item on the agenda for the October Federal Council Meeting was discussed, and the Branch delegate was advised of members' views.

Financial.—Accounts totalling £75/6/3 were passed for payment.

Supplies to Patients in Private Hospitals.—Attention was drawn to the fact that patients in private hospitals requested that their prescriptions be forwarded to a specific chemist, but their request was not being carried out and hospitals must therefore be forwarding all their prescriptions to some individual chemist at the loss of the others.

After discussion, it was resolved that an approach be made to the private hospitals to establish a roster of chemists to supply requirements of patients.

It was decided that a deputation consisting of the President, Vice-President and Secretary should discuss this matter with the appropriate persons.

The meeting closed at 11 p.m.

NEW ZEALAND

PHARMACY BOARD

The Pharmacy Board of New Zealand met at 59 Cambridge Terrace, Wellington, on September 9, at 9.30 a.m.

Present.—Messrs. C. N. Bell (President), E. P. Shier, E. Dash, F. W. G. Johnson, R. E. Combes, H. L. Possennikie, H. F. Clarke, F. T. Castle, H. V. Hubbard, H. R. Rollinson and J. G. Simcock.

An apology for non-attendance on account of sickness was received from Mr. T. P. Cleary. It was resolved that a message of sympathy and good wishes be sent to Mr. Cleary from the assembled Board.

Vincen's Tablets.—The Registrar reported that as had been anticipated at the previous meeting, a request had been made to the Minister of Health to amend the Pharmacy Act by the insertion of a definition of the term "proprietary medicine." He then proceeded to read a lengthy letter addressed to the Minister by Messrs. Webb, Richmond and Bryan, acting on behalf of the Proprietary Preparations Association, the New Zealand Master Grocers' Federation, the Wellington Chain Grocery Stores Industrial Union of Employers, Woolworths (N.Z.) Ltd., McKenzies Department Stores Ltd., The New Zealand Wholesale Merchants' Federation and the Auckland Chain Grocery Stores Employers' Association. The final submission contained in the solicitors' letter was that the Pharmacy Act be amended by inserting a definition of proprietary medicine which, in brief, would mean any medicine sold under a particular trade mark, name, brand, pack, get-up or label, provided that it was not a medicine the formula of which was identical with any formula in an official pharmaceutical publication. The Registrar then read a

letter from the Board's solicitor to the Hon. the Minister, setting out in detail his answers to the submissions made, and protesting against any amendment to the Pharmacy Act in the desired direction. After very full discussion the Board unanimously resolved to confirm the action of its solicitor.

Pharmaceutical Education.—Pleasure was expressed at the contents of a letter dated July 22, 1952, from the Minister of Health, agreeing that the present methods of training pharmacy students were not satisfactory, and that necessary improvements would involve some instruction being provided by the University. The Minister intimated that no difficulty was anticipated in providing instruction in background subjects at the four University Colleges in the same way as medical intermediate subjects were taught. He was, however, anxious to avoid sending to Dunedin all students wishing to qualify fully as pharmaceutical chemists, and suggested that the Board should approach the University of New Zealand firstly to ascertain to what extent the existing courses could be used for background subjects, and secondly, to discuss the necessity for establishing at Dunedin a new course for the special subjects relating to pharmacy. The Board had before it a report from the College Principal recommending, *inter alia*, that Medical Intermediate replace the present Section "B" examination. After lengthy discussion, it was unanimously resolved that the Board approach the University of New Zealand in the manner suggested by the Minister:

1. To recommend that persons wishing to qualify as pharmaceutical chemists be permitted to enrol for the Medical Intermediate course at any of the four University Colleges; and

2. To emphasise the need for establishing at Otago University a one-year course for instruction in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Pharmaceutics, Physiology, Pharmacology and Bacteriology.

The Board further resolved that if its proposals were given effect to, the present system of training and examination be abolished and that candidates who succeeded in the University examinations and underwent a period of pupillage of not less than two years in a retail pharmacy or hospital dispensary, be eligible to apply for registration as pharmaceutical chemists.

The Board finally resolved that, as an immediate step, a committee consisting of the President, the College Principal and the Registrar, discuss the matter in a preliminary way with the Registrar of the University of New Zealand, and report back.

Rotorua Conference: Scientific Sections.—In reporting upon the proposed scientific sections at the Rotorua Conference, Mr. Combes read a draft programme which had been furnished to him by the Dominion Secretary of the Chemists' Service Guild. He intimated that the afternoon of the Tuesday had been set aside for a scientific session, and that the Wednesday afternoon had similarly been reserved, although on the latter occasion a meeting of the Dominion Council of the Guild, to which all visiting chemists had been invited, would also take place.

For the scientific sections, he reported that papers on Tolerances, Assays, Emulsion Formulations and an Outline of European Pharmacy were available. Some discussion centred round the proposal to hold a scientific session on the Wednesday afternoon, whilst the Dominion Council was meeting. There was considerable discussion of a proposal that the general meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society on the Wednesday evening be followed by an address by two eminent overseas scientists.

Final consideration of these two matters was deferred until after the lunch adjournment.

Examiner in Materia Medica.—A letter from Mr. W. K. Hounsell, who had been Examiner in *Materia Medica* for many years, asking to be relieved of that appoint-

NEW ZEALAND (Continued)

ment after 1952, was placed before the Board. In view of the prospect of an alteration in the existing system of examinations, it was unanimously resolved to ask Mr. Hounsell kindly to reconsider his request and continue to act for a further two years.

New Zealand Hospital Pharmacists' Association Inc.—Consideration was given to a letter dated August 13, from the President of the above Association, Mr. J. S. Peel, informing the Board of the establishment of the new Association, and seeking the Board's approval of its rules. The Registrar was requested to read, for the information of members, the copy of the rules that had been furnished by the President of the Association.

The matter was still under discussion when the meeting adjourned at 1.5 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 2.30 p.m.

Scientific Sections: Rotorua Conference.—After brief discussion it was unanimously resolved that a second scientific session be held on the Wednesday afternoon notwithstanding that a meeting of the Dominion Council was also to be held at that time. After further deliberations regarding the general meeting of the Society, during which the opinion was freely expressed that an entire evening should be devoted to this purpose, it was decided that the Auckland members would discuss the matter with the President of the Guild, urging that the Wednesday night be set aside exclusively for the general meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society.

New Zealand Hospital Pharmacists' Association Inc.—Consideration of this matter was then resumed, but after further deliberation the Board unanimously resolved that certain aspects called for more detailed examination, and that a final answer to Mr. Peel's request could not be given at the present time.

Practical Training of Apprentices.—The College Principal attended at his own request to report that it was apparent to him, from the lack of knowledge of fundamental dispensing techniques displayed by many students of the College of Pharmacy, both internal and external (when the latter were attending personally at the College), that they were not being adequately trained by their masters. He emphasised that the College of Pharmacy could not undertake the full training of apprentices because this could only be gained by day-to-day practice, obtainable in their respective places of employment. General concern was expressed by members at the report of the College Principal, and several suggestions were made for remedying the position.

It was resolved finally that the Registrar obtain from the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain a copy of the "Notes to Assist the Apprentice Master," recently issued by that Society, and if it is thought that a similar procedure to that now being followed in Great Britain would effect the necessary improvements locally, a further request is to be made to the parent Society for permission to use the notes, or a suitable modification thereof, in New Zealand.

Applications for Permission to Sit Pharmacy "B" Whilst Not Engaged in Pharmacy.—An application from a student who had previously spent two years under articles of apprenticeship, and was seeking to re-enter pharmacy, was granted.

An application from a person who had never been employed in pharmacy and had no immediate prospects of such employment was declined.

Application for Exemption from Compulsory Attendance at Personal Course for External "C" Students.—An application for exemption from attending a course in 1952 was granted on account of the sudden onset of serious illness of the employer.

Enquiry from Singapore, Regarding Admission to Pharmacy in New Zealand.—Consideration was given to a request from a Chinese youth for permission to enter pharmacy in New Zealand on the basis of his having passed the Senior Middle School Examination of Singapore. The Registrar reported that he had been in touch with the University authorities, who had advised that their practice when dealing with applications from students in Singapore for admission to New Zealand University was to require Cambridge Local Examination with credit passes in four subjects suitable to New Zealand. It was unanimously resolved that the Board adopt the practice of the University of New Zealand and that the applicant be informed accordingly.

Gift to Birdsgrove House.—A letter from the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, advising that the rugs donated by the New Zealand chemists had been received in Birdsgrove House, and reiterating the Society's thanks for the gift, was received.

Commencing Date of Indentures.—In view of the doubts known to exist in the minds of both masters and apprentices as to the actual date on which indentures were deemed to commence, it was resolved, after full consideration of the question, that the form of indentures issued by the Board be amended so that in all cases indentures would be deemed to commence as from the date on which the apprentice started employment.

Application for Credit in Respect of Earlier Period of Apprenticeship.—It was resolved to grant a request on behalf of an apprentice that he be credited for apprenticeship purposes with a period of five months previously served under indentures.

Application for Recognition of Educational Qualifications as Equivalent to University Entrance.—Mr. Castle, reporting on behalf of the committee, consisting of the College Principal and the Registrar, advised that the applicant had been interviewed and that the committee was of the opinion that she possessed a sufficient knowledge of English to pursue the necessary course of study to qualify in New Zealand. He reported further that the committee had before it a certificate from the Registrar of the University of New Zealand, to the effect that the applicant had passed first year examinations in Physics, Zoology, Inorganic Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Chemistry at Athens University. Finally, he reported that the College Principal was satisfied, from his interview with the applicant, that she possessed an adequate knowledge of the subjects mentioned. The Board unanimously resolved that the applicant be informed that the Board recognised her educational qualifications as being of equivalent standard to the Entrance Examination of the University of New Zealand, and that she may forthwith take steps to obtain employment as an apprentice in pharmacy.

Inspectors' Reports.—Mr. Rollinson, reporting on behalf of Mr. Simcock and himself, stated that during the preceding three months a considerable number of reports on pharmacies throughout New Zealand had been perused. He referred to deficiencies in equipment, but stated that these were mainly of a minor nature. He listed several pharmacies which had been the subject of adverse reports by Inspectors, and the Board instructed the Registrar to communicate with five proprietors whose dispensaries were reported as being either untidy or dirty. The Registrar was also instructed to ask a proprietor for a written explanation of his conduct in absenting himself from his pharmacy and leaving it without qualified supervision for a period of at least 2½ hours during the afternoon of the Inspector's visit.

The meeting adjourned at 5.30 p.m., and resumed at 10.30 a.m. on September 10, to receive the report of the committee, consisting of the President, the College Prin-

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NEW ZEALAND (Continued)

cial and the Registrar, regarding their discussions with the Deputy-Registrar of the University of New Zealand, which had taken place at 9.30 a.m. This matter was not immediately proceeded with as the College Principal was engaged in a lecture.

Draft Specification: 80-oz. Winchester Bottles.—The Registrar was instructed to thank the Standard Institute for submitting the specification for the Board's examination, and to say that the Board had no further comment to make on this occasion.

Applications for Registration were approved as follows:—

Passed Professional Examinations: Bruce Frederick Barnard, Lyall Edwin Douglas Campbell, Thomas Lister Chirnside, Reginald George Coombe, Isaac Emanuel Richmond and Robert Donald Tait.

Under reciprocal agreements: Douglas Ferguson Stoops, Certificate No. 441 of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland, dated December, 1934; and William Walter Webb, Certificate No. D909, of the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales, dated March 13, 1951.

Indentures Recorded.—13.

Consideration was given to the indentures of a youth who had furnished evidence of having passed General School Examination School Certificate of the University of London. The Registrar was instructed to enquire of the Registrar of the University of London whether this examination would entitle the holder thereof to matriculate at the University of London, and to inform the proposed master that the indentures could not be recorded until the Board was satisfied that the proposed apprentice possessed educational qualifications entitling him to enter pharmacy in New Zealand.

Indentures Assigned.—9.

Indentures Completed.—15.

Managers Enrolled.—The Board approved of 71 applications.

Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand.—After very full discussion the Board unanimously resolved, with regret, to withdraw from the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand. The Registrar was instructed to advise the Honorary General Secretary accordingly, and to explain that the Board had reached this decision because, from its experience over a number of years, there did not appear to be any practicable means by which the Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand, or its executive body, the Pharmacy Board, could contribute towards the Association's advancement or participate effectively in its activities.

Application from Technical High School, Hawera, for Recognition of Chemistry Classes.—An application from the Hawera Technical High School for recognition of its chemistry classes was granted, on the recommendation of the College Principal.

List of Unpaid Subscriptions.—The Registrar furnished a list of the names of members of the Society whose membership fees for 1952 had not been paid. After perusal of the list the Board instructed the Registrar to remove 26 names from the Register.

Absence from Work During the Apprenticeship Period.—The Board confirmed the action of the Registrar in advising a master that a period of five months absence from work due to injury would have to be made up by the apprentice before the indentures were completed.

Resumed Apprenticeship.—The Board agreed to an apprentice who had previously served a portion of an apprenticeship, resuming his indentures. The apprentice is to receive credit for his earlier period of service.

Personal Attendance Courses: College of Pharmacy.

The Board resolved to receive with thanks a letter from an Auckland employer, commenting favourably on these courses, and in particular upon the efforts of the College staff to assist students. The Registrar was instructed to acquaint the College Principal and his staff with the contents of the letter.

Offer of Prizes by Kodak (A'sia) Pty. Ltd. to Students Gaining Highest Marks at Examination Centres.—This offer, which was received by the Guild, was accepted, and the Registrar was instructed to inform the Guild's Dominion Secretary that the Board would be happy to co-operate, but that in the Board's view the prizes should be in the form of books or equipment.

Commonwealth Conference on Pharmaceutical Education.—The President reported that advice had been received that the British Pharmaceutical Society proposed to convene a meeting in 1953, of representatives of all the Pharmaceutical Societies of the Commonwealth, to discuss problems of education and other problems of mutual interest. Several members stressed the desirability for the New Zealand Society to be directly represented at this important gathering. The Registrar was instructed meanwhile to advise the British Society that if at all practicable the Board will give favourable consideration to sending a representative.

Pharmaceutical Education.—At this stage the College Principal attended, and it was reported that in the discussions held earlier that morning with the Deputy-Registrar of the University, it had been learnt that persons intending to pursue pharmacy as a career could, if otherwise eligible, enrol with any of the four University Colleges for the Medical Intermediate course.

It was reported further that the University officer had recommended that the Board should, in a letter addressed to the Senate of the University, set out in detail its proposals for advancing pharmaceutical education to University level, and request an early commencement of discussions between representatives of the Senate and the Board.

The Board unanimously resolved to act on the foregoing suggestion. In anticipation of the discussions commencing at an early date, a committee comprising the President, Mr. Dash, the College Principal, and the Registrar, was set up.

American Pharmaceutical Association Centennial Convention.

The Vice-President, Mr. Shier, in mentioning that the President had only the day before returned to the Dominion after representing New Zealand at the Centennial Convention of the American Pharmaceutical Association, stated that from what he had heard of the President's visit, it had proved to be very worth while. He felt that Mr. Bell had acquired a considerable knowledge of pharmacy in the United States of America, and that this knowledge would be of value to New Zealand pharmacy. He, the Vice-President, was certain that when the President was in a position to report fully, he would have much to say that would be of interest more particularly in the field of education. Mr. Shier said that it was evidence of Mr. Bell's earnest desire to advance the interests of the profession in New Zealand that he had undertaken this trip entirely at his own expense. A hearty vote of thanks to the President, proposed by Mr. Shier, was carried by acclamation. The President briefly thanked his colleagues, saying that he regarded it as a very great honour to represent New Zealand on this occasion. He found that the Americans had a very high regard for New Zealand and its people. It was his intention, when opportunity offered, to prepare a full report for the information of the Board.

This concluded the business of the meeting, which terminated at 12.40 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board is to be held on December 9.

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News

Mr. J. A. Lean has opened a pharmacy at Kogarah.
Mr. E. K. Astiel has opened a pharmacy at Penrith.
Mr. A. J. Campbell has purchased Mr. F. N. Little's Pharmacy at Petersham.

Mr. P. G. Martin, of Belmore, has sold his pharmacy to Mr. C. S. Smythe.

Mr. A. E. Dawe has bought the business of Mr. W. H. Tie, of Narrandera.

Mr. F. N. Little has purchased Gilletts' Pharmacy, at Coogee.

Mr. V. D. Johnston, of Darlinghurst, has sold his pharmacy to Mr. C. E. Finn.

Mr. A. Percival has opened a pharmacy at Beverly Hills.

Mr. I. H. Peterson has purchased Gilletts' Pharmacy, Kandos.

Mr. K. Seaimann has opened a pharmacy at Unanderra.

Mr. T. Cleary has purchased Weatherall's Pharmacy, at Narrabri.

Mr. F. J. Milgate, of Portland, has sold his pharmacy to Mr. J. L. Albertson, and has bought Mr. J. B. Hore's business at Leura.

Mr. A. P. Sourry has sold his business at Katoomba to Mr. A. Shirlow, and has purchased Mr. F. M. Wheeler's Pharmacy at Gosford.

Wedding.—Our congratulations and good wishes to Pharmacists Miss Margaret Helen Morgan and Mr. Grahame McIntosh, who were married recently, at St. Paul's Church, Burwood.

Birth.—Our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. W. Anthony Curry on the birth of a son—Peter Anthony—on June 17. Mrs. Curry, before her marriage, was Social Secretary of the Association of Women Pharmacists of N.S.W.

THE SCIENCE GROUP

The Science Group held its October meeting on the 17th, at Science House, when we were favoured with a talk by Mr. W. R. Cutler, on his recent trip overseas.

The first part of the talk was devoted to educational matters, firstly in America and afterwards in England and the Continent. The latter part was occupied with interesting and amusing sidelights of the trip, which were appreciated by all.

That all present appreciated the evening was evidenced by the number of questions that Mr. Cutler was called upon to answer at the conclusion of the evening.

The November meeting of the Group will be held on November 19—not Friday, as usual—when Dr. McCarthy from Parke Davis & Co. Ltd., will show his film on "Research."

This meeting will be held in the small hall on the ground floor of Science House.

N.S.W. CHEMISTS' GOLF CLUB ANNUAL MEETING.

The fourth annual meeting, which was postponed from August 5 owing to rain, was held at Avondale Golf Club on October 8. President Alan Weir outlined the Interstate Golf Week and Victorian visit, which is scheduled for February 21-28, 1953.

Tentative arrangements have been made to play at Elenora, Wollongong, Avondale and The Lakes Golf Links during that week.

Roland Bennett, Treasurer, presented the financial statement for the year, which indicated a better financial position than for previous years. The response

from the wholesalers and other firms in the drug trade for donations to a Trophy Fund was very successful and fully appreciated by all members. A complete list of firms who donated (maximum donation £5/5/-) will be published later. As pointed out by Ralph Bray (Secretary) this generous response will help to make the organisation of the coming Interstate Golf Week much easier to finance.

The Trophy Fund will help to keep the fees of the bi-monthly meetings to a minimum. It was decided that the fee for the ensuing year will be 20/- for city and suburban members and 5/- for country members beyond the line bounded by Hornsby, Parramatta and Sutherland.

The F. P. J. Gray Memorial Trophy, donated by Phil Gray, for this year, will be presented to the member who returns the best aggregate stableford for six individual cards returned during the year. A special trophy will be presented to the best individual in B and C Grade events. The winners for the previous year were:—

F.P.J. Memorial Trophy: Vic. Melbourne, 128 points.
Special "B" and "C" Grade: Arthur Bailey, 116 points.

Election of Officers.

President: Alan Weir.

Vice-Presidents: Bob Crawford and Hymie Eizenberg.
Organising Secretary: Ralph Bray.

Treasurer: Roland Bennett.

Handicapper: Phil Gray.

Publicity Officer: Bert McIlroy.

Committee: Retailers: Wal. Rourke, Tom Redmond, Wall Pinerua, Cliff Gostelow, Jim Donovan and John Young; Wholesalers: Bob Keil, Ted Stewart, Hop. Webb, Bert Sweet, Bill Timmony and Ray Walters.

Golf Results.

Four-ball Best Ball: Reg Rowley (9) and Ray Walters (15), 39 points, on a count back from Wal Rourke (4) and Cliff Gostelow (9).

"A" Grade: Alan Weir (8), 32 points.

"B" Grade: Les Bevedge (17), 30 points.

"C" Grade: Jack Jacobson (18), 29 points.

Next Outing.

The next bi-monthly meeting will be held at N.S.W. Golf Links on Tuesday, December 2. The annual Chemists' and Druggists' Tournament will be held at Long Reef Golf Club on Tuesday, November 4.

Club Membership.

If you are not a member of the Chemists' Golf Club, contact Ralph Bray, Box 901, G.P.O., Sydney (Phone: MA 9121). Any member of the retail and wholesale chemists and other activities directly associated with the pharmaceutical profession is eligible to join. As a member of the above club you have the opportunity of playing on the main "A" Grade Golf Courses in Sydney and meeting members of retail pharmacy and wholesale drug under pleasant social conditions. Why not join now?

PHARMACY BOARD

Monthly Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of New South Wales met at 52 Bridge street, Sydney, on September 9, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Mr. J. L. Townley (President), Messrs. L. Smith, A. West, S. Wright, G. Williams, O. Leggo, G. Simpson and R. Hudspeth.

Deputation to Minister on Need for a New Poisons Act.—No further action was proposed in view of press reports that Parliament was now bringing forward new legislation. The Registrar was requested to write to the Minister, congratulating him on this fact, and indicating satisfaction that the Board would be granted active participation in and representation on the Poisons Advisory Committee, as stated in the press reports.

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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

Applications for Registration.—Applications were approved as follows:—

Having passed Qualifying Examination, Patrick John Joseph Develin.

By reciprocal agreement, Betty Schumacher (from Victoria).

By restoration, Marie Therese Curran.

Section 11 (e), Foreign Application for Consideration.

—The application of W. L. Jahnsohn, Darmstadt, Germany (1933), was referred to the sub-committee on foreign chemists for consideration and report. The meeting decided that the sub-committee should comprise Messrs. Smith, Gostelow and Wright.

Certificates of Identity.—John Charles Channon (to Great Britain), and Ronald Richard Flannery (to New Zealand).

Poisons Act.—The following deaths from poisons had been reported since last meeting, viz., Phenobarbital 1, Antimony Pot. Tartrate 1.

Registration of Indentures.—These comprised two new indentures, 1 transfer and 3 cancellations.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales met at "Science House," 157 Gloucester street, Sydney, on September 2 at 7.45 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. K. A. Cartwright (Chairman), J. L. Townley, A. W. Winterton, A. West, S. E. Wright, J. H. Powell, E. G. Hall and B. G. Fegent.

New Members Elected.—Messrs. Ronald Claude Ives, Bankstown; George Arthur Kaye, Lane Cove.

Reinstatement.—Mr. Raymond Madden Evans, Doll's Point.

Advancements to Full Membership.—Messrs. Raymond Geoffrey Morris, Eastwood; John Edward Collins Oldham, Chatswood.

Associate Member Elected.—Mr. Raymond Leslie Coates.

Finance.—The Secretary tabled the usual statement of receipts and payments from August 5 to September 2, together with a comparative statement for the corresponding period in the previous year, and same was approved.

Science Congress, Sydney, 1952.

Meetings of Section "O."—Mr. Cartwright said that in company with Mr. Hall he attended the meetings of Section "O." He had found the papers read to be most interesting, instructive and helpful. The meeting was most successful—it highlighted the scientific aspect of pharmacy. Mr. S. E. Wright had taken a prominent part in a number of papers.

Mr. Hall said he had thoroughly enjoyed the papers, some of which were very technical in character. Great credit was due to Professor Thorp and Mr. Wright for the extremely active part they had taken in the organisation and presentation of papers read at Section "O." Without these two gentlemen the conference might not have been such a great success. Contributions from Victoria were also extremely welcome.

The Symposium on Drug Accreditations had created great interest and had obtained a considerable degree of publicity in the lay press.

It was decided to thank Fox Films for making a film available, and also to thank Parke Davis & Co. Ltd. for providing transport to its works.

Meeting Regarding Pharmaceutical Education.—Mr. Cartwright said that on Thursday a meeting of visiting delegates had taken place at "Science House," when a general discussion ensued concerning pharmaceutical education. Mr. Read and Mr. Powell, of the Phar-

maceutical Society, had been present, also Mr. Cosgrave, representing the Pharmacy Board. Professor MacBeth from Adelaide attended. A report of proceedings had been taken by Mr. Kent.

Mr. Wright enquired the purpose of the meeting.

Mr. Cartwright said that there had been a general discussion on the subject of pharmaceutical education. The views of the various States had been presented.

Mr. Wright said it was unfortunate that the meeting had been held at a time when Professor Thorp and he had not been able to attend.

Mr. Powell said he was glad he was able to be present. He had experienced an instructive day, and had gone away feeling happy at the thoughts on pharmaceutical education which had been expressed. Discussions with other States were extremely helpful, and the meetings were decidedly informative.

It was stated that a further meeting would be held, possibly in January, 1953, at Adelaide.

Chemists' Ball, 1952.—The Secretary reported that the attendance had been 828. The Trocadero had been guaranteed 1000 attendants.

It was decided to send a letter of thanks to Mr. D. Smith for his work in connection with decorations at the ball.

Code of Ethics.—It was decided that the Ethics Committee should report back to the Council on the matter of a Code of Ethics at the October meeting.

It was decided that the Ethical Committee should meet on September 26.

Country Visits 1952.

Visits to Bathurst, Wagga, Tamworth and Katoomba.—It was decided to arrange visits to the various centres as follows:—

Bathurst: Early October.

Wagga: End of October.

Tamworth: Middle of November.

It was suggested the following should attend the various centres:—

Bathurst: Messrs. J. L. Townley, B. G. Fegent and J. H. Powell or H. W. Read.

Wagga: Messrs. K. A. Cartwright, B. G. Fegent and the Secretary.

Tamworth: Messrs. E. G. Hall and S. F. Wright.

Concerning the visit to Katoomba, it was decided to advise the Secretary of the Blue Mountains Pharmacist Association, Mr. R. Holt, that Mr. Wright would attend on October 8, accompanied by Messrs. K. A. Cartwright and A. E. Conolly, with possibly Mr. Fegent and Mr. Hall. Mr. Wright undertook to advise the title of his address.

First Year Apprentice Lectures.—The Secretary pointed out that the examination would be held in the Great Hall, University of Sydney, on September 30. The examiners were requested to provide copy for their examination papers for printing.

Lecture on Ethics.—The Secretary was requested to deliver an address on the subject of ethics to the pharmacy students on September 23.

The Secretary said it was a most difficult subject to present to adolescents, who might not be in a receptive state to such a ponderous subject.

P.A.A.N.Z. Conference 1953.—It was decided to fix the date of the conference during August, 1953, to coincide with the University vacation. It was further decided to apply to the Wool Exchange for use of the Wool Sales Room, Bridge street, Sydney, for the purpose of holding the conference. The Secretary was asked to ascertain from the University the dates of the University vacation in 1953.

Social Sub-Committee.—It was resolved to form a Sub-Committee to make arrangements for social activity. Three members of the Society Council and two representatives from the Women Pharmacists' Association to help with entertainment matters. It was suggested there should be no bus trips, but that arrangements should be made for cars to convey visitors to various points of vantage.

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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

Mr. Fegent said the Pioneer Tour people would take over the whole of the arrangements if necessary, and could supply up to 20 buses.

It was resolved that the Society Executive, plus Mr. J. H. Powell and two representatives from the Women Pharmacists' Association, be appointed to the Social Sub-Committee.

It was further decided, concerning accommodation, that a letter should be sent to Mr. Connolly, of the U.L.V.A., enquiring if accommodation could be arranged at the one hotel for visitors for the same number of people as attended the Brisbane Conference.

It was decided that the first meeting of the Sub-Committee should be held on September 22. The Sub-Committee would deal with social matters only, and would not attempt to arrange the business programme.

It was decided to write to Mr. Kent asking him to delineate the duties of the Pharmaceutical Society Council in relation to the conference, concerning (1) entertainment, (2) arrangement of the business programme, (3) any other matters.

It was further resolved to invite Mr. Kent to attend the meeting on September 22 to discuss matters generally.

Correspondence.—Mr. W. R. Cutler, President, P.A.A.N.Z., conveying to the Council his thanks for the Society's contribution to expenses of visit to Philadelphia, and stating that he will do his best to uphold the confidence shown him while representing Australian pharmacy.—Received.

Professor R. H. Thorp, conveying to members of the Society sincere appreciation for financial help during the A.N.Z.A.A.S. Conference, and enclosing statement of expenditure of cheque for £40.—Received.

Kodak (A'sia) Pty. Ltd., regarding additional prize of £25 as an examination prize. It was decided to discuss this matter on September 26 at the meeting of the Ethics and Educational Committee.

Mr. Wright said the allocation of prizes now resided with the University. It was decided to supply Mr. Wright with a list of the prizes and the conditions attaching thereto.

Blue Mountains Pharmacist Association, expressing disappointment that Mr. Wright and members of the Council were unable to be present at the Association's meeting on August 13. Asking if Mr. Wright could be requested to give a lecture on September 10 or October 8. Stating that members would like to know the subject prior to the meeting.—Received.

Pharmacy Board of N.S.W., enclosing copy of letter concerning the proposed visit of Mr. Slattery, Chairman of the Rochdale Pharmaceutical Committee, England. Asking if the Society would be able to assist Mr. Slattery, who will reside in Melbourne. It was decided to advise Mr. Slattery that the Society Executive would be pleased to welcome him upon his arrival to Sydney. It was further decided to send a copy of the letter from the Rochdale Pharmaceutical Committee to the Guild.

General.—Mr. Powell enquired the manner in which students were chosen for admission to the University evening refresher courses in pharmacy. There was a feeling amongst students that those who were lucky enough to have the opportunity of attending the evening classes got a better deal and were in a more favoured position, as they went into the examination room primed with the examiner's thoughts.

Mr. Wright said the laboratory held 60 persons. The night classes had been advertised in the "A.J.P." and all who first applied had been accommodated.

Mr. Hall enquired the latest position concerning the Poisons Act. The Society should make a move and bring pressure to bear on the Minister for Health to amend the Act to provide for a restricted drug schedule.

Mr. Townley said there had been a deputation to the Minister from the Pharmacy Board concerning restricted drugs.

Christmas Function.—Mr. Hall suggested that a function be held for Society members early in December. Possibly the S.S. North Head could be chartered for the evening for a cabaret style dance. If the price could be got down to 8/6 per head, there should be a good attendance of Society members. It was decided to make enquiries from the Port Jackson Ferry Co.

The meeting terminated at 11.5 p.m.

OCTOBER MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

Held at Science House, 157 Gloucester street, Sydney, on October 7, at 7.45 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. K. A. Cartwright (Chairman), J. L. Townley, A. Winterton, S. E. Wright, J. F. Plunkett, E. G. Hall, B. G. Fegent, J. Shineberg, J. H. Powell, H. W. Read and A. W. West.

Congratulations to Mr. R. C. Tottenham.—It was decided to write and congratulate Mr. Tottenham on his successful completion of the Third Year Examinations in Medicine.

New Members Elected.—Lois Edith Bearup, Penhurst; Betty Marcella Blackall, Rose Bay; John Moore Buxton, Maroubra; Kevin Francis Byrnes, Lane Cove; Margaret Edith Chapman, Turramurra; Peter George Christian, Potts Point; Ross Loman Clifton, Potts Point; Peter Francis Dennis, Tamworth; James Michael Drayton, Randwick; Claire Margaret Farrell, New Lambton; Alwyn Charles Fenton, Revesby; Carmel Terese Gilchrist, Rozelle; Patricia Yenda A. Grennan, Strathfield; Roy Patrick Goodwin, Cowra; Peter Capp Hall, North Sydney; Eric Raymond Hargreaves, Lower Hutt, N.Z.; Terence Highfield Hensley, Croydon; Barbara June Hughes, Balgowlah; Ian Bruce Kennard, Forbes; William Thomas Kirwin, Redfern; Kevin Valentine Lawler, Manly; Eunice Beryl MacWhinnie, Liverpool; Naomi Jane Newton, Hornsby; John Mervyn O'Connor, Cronulla; Mrs. Marjorie May Osborne, Campsie; Ian Henderson Peterson, Kandos; Ian Douglas Reed, Summer Hill; Mrs. Susan Silas, Bronte; Bryan Sloane, Haberfield; John Joseph Stewart, Canterbury; Stewart Tucker, Blakehurst; Pamela Mary Taylor, Herne Bay; Kevin Torpy, Villawood; John Charles Utting, Bondi Beach; and Gordon Louis Wilson, Cronulla.

Reinstatement.—Loulie Maxine Lewis, Lakemba.

Advancements to Full Membership.—Mary Georgina Bealin, Cremorne; Cornelius Hendrik Berghuis, Fairfield; Elaine Irene Case, Forest Lodge; David Anthony Ross Clark, Turramurra; John Robert Collier, Burwood; Lorimer John Corbett, Mosman; Donald Davidson, Mosman; Kevin James Ford, Fairfield; Peter Douglas Giles, Mayfield; Geoffrey James Greening, Merrylands; Donald Jack Hansell, Five Dock; Lorraine Ireland, Lindfield; David Gilbert Jewkes, Mosman; Justin McCarthy King, Bondi North; Stuart Bruce McGilchrist, Parramatta; Keith James Latham, Tamworth; Ronald Langwell, Wahroonga; Peter Robert Lipman, Rose Bay; Margaret Madden, Beecroft; Isobel Stewart Murray, Mosman; Kevin Peter O'Rourke, Ashfield; Peter Daryl Plummer, Condell Park; Peggy Patricia Perrett, Gunnedah; Robert Bruce Salisbury, Thornleigh; Patricia Helen Stone, Mosman; Aileen Miriam Swayne, Crow's Nest; Ross Thomson Trewin, Concord; Kevin James Ward, Guildford; Owen Weaver, Vaucluse; Warwick James Wilkinson, Summer Hill; and Brian Edward Williams, Randwick.

Meeting of Ethical and Education Committee.—Held September 26.

1. Standards of Professional Conduct.—It was reported that a preliminary draft had been made concerning standards of professional conduct.

2. Prizes, Conditions of Award.—The conditions of the award were as set out in the report of the meeting.

It was decided that the President should make a personal approach to Elliotts & Australian Drug Pty. Ltd. concerning the amount of the Elliott Prize.

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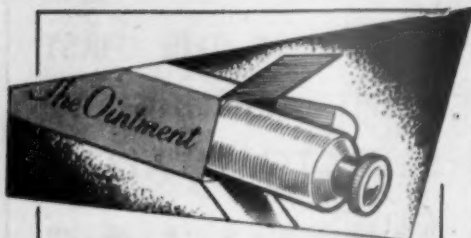
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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

It was resolved that the report of the Education Conference and the Ethical and Educational Committee be received and adopted.

Concerning proposed meeting at Adelaide in 1953 to discuss pharmaceutical education, it was decided to advise Mr. Kent that the Society would send at least one representative, but that invitations should be extended to the Pharmacy Board and the teaching staff at the University to be present also.

P.A.A.N.Z. Conference 1953.—Messrs. Cartwright and Hall reported on meetings of the Social Sub-Committee held on September 22, and the Central Control Committee held on September 30. These reports were incorporated as part of the minutes.

Country Visits 1952.

Visit to Tamworth.—Mr. Fegent said that Mr. Neville Hall would send along a report of the meeting which he had attended. He had reminded the meeting at Tamworth that it was the Society's first visit to the zone. He had told the meeting what membership of the Society meant and what the Society stood for. He also gave information concerning the D.D. Act and the Poisons Act. The meeting was pleased to know that the Science Group was functioning. It was suggested that the Society's library catalogue should be included in the Society's Annual Report. Mention had been made of the Accreditation of Drugs which was generally supported. The meeting thought that lectures accompanied by films would be a good idea.

Mr. Cartwright said he was gratified at the result of the visit—it had broken worthwhile ground.

Visit to Katoomba.—It was decided that Messrs. Cartwright and Wright should visit Katoomba.

The Secretary said that in view of the short week and the great number of meetings and interviews planned for the week, he would not be able to visit Katoomba on this occasion.

Proposed Visit to Wagga, October 20.—Awaiting further advice.

Proposed Visit to Bathurst.—Awaiting further advice.

First Year Apprentices' Examination.—Mr. Hall said the examination had been held on September 30. One hundred and ten candidates presented themselves—58 boys and 52 girls. He hoped to have the results ready for the November meeting of the Council.

Kodak Travelling Scholarship.—The Secretary said five entries had been submitted. It was decided that the State Committee, consisting of the Executive plus Professor Thorp, should meet to prepare a recommendation in respect of one of the entrants.

Proposed Christmas Function.—No decision was made at the meeting.

Deputation to the Hon. C. A. Kelly, at Parliament House, October 8.—The Secretary said that Mr. Kelly was prepared to receive a deputation concerning control of dangerous drugs in the hands of the wholesalers. It was resolved that the President (Mr. Cartwright), Mr. Winterton and the Secretary should attend the deputation.

Correspondence.—P.A.A.N.Z., inviting attention to invitation extended by S.A. representatives to interstate representatives to attend a further conference on pharmaceutical education in Adelaide early next year. Already attended to.

Minister for Health, advising it is intended that the Pharmacy Board will be represented on the Poisons Advisory Committee. In this way pharmacists generally will be represented. Received.

Mr. C. N. Small, Wagga Wagga, advising will send out a circular to zone members regarding proposed visit October 26.

Mr. F. Blomfield, Bathurst, re proposed visit to Bathurst. Sunday, October 5, is not suitable. Will

arrange some suitable date for Bathurst, Orange or even Lithgow. Noted.

Mr. F. J. McNamara, West Wyalong, requesting copy of the Code of Ethics of the Society. To be forwarded a copy of the Standards of Professional Conduct when prepared and adopted.

Mr. S. Wollifson, Merewether, seeking advice on a matter of ethics. Doctor directing patients to chemists. Hold over for next meeting.

Mr. J. Shand, Bondi, advising is not yet 21 years of age. Enquiring if it is necessary to be advanced to full membership. It was decided to advise Mr. Shand that he should apply for advancement to full membership of the Society.

The Association of Women Pharmacists of N.S.W., thanking the Council for use of the Board Room for meetings over the past year.

To Chief Secretary, re control of Dangerous Drugs in hands of wholesalers. Dealt with previously in the meeting.

Mr. A. C. Bevege, concerning membership of the Society.

Mr. P. T. Knapton, Parkes—qualified in 1902—has been a member of the Society throughout the past 50 years.

Honorary Membership.—It was resolved that Mr. A. C. Bevege, Epping, and Mr. P. T. Knapton, Parkes, be made Honorary Members of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

The meeting terminated at 11.0 p.m.

THE GUILD

S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the New South Wales Branch of the Guild met at "Science House," 157 Gloucester street, Sydney, on September 11, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. L. W. Smith, J. Little, W. F. Pinerua, K. E. Thomas, O. C. V. Leggo, R. S. Leece, W. G. Sapsford, C. D. Bradford, L. M. Fox, K. Jordan.

Election of Officers.

President.—Mr. J. Little took the Chair, and before inviting nominations for the office of President said he desired to express keen appreciation for the wonderful job performed by Mr. L. W. Smith during the last two years as State President. No previous President had devoted so much of his own time to Guild work. Mr. Little continued that it was at his instigation that the presidential term had been more or less limited to two years in order that this important office should rotate. However, at this juncture he would like to suggest that Mr. Smith be re-elected for a further term of 12 months. Mr. Smith was going abroad and would travel extensively overseas. It would be most appropriate if Mr. Smith should go abroad as President of the N.S.W. State Branch of the Guild. He would carry with him the prestige of the Guild. Mr. Little thereupon nominated Mr. L. W. Smith for the office of President of the N.S.W. Branch of the Guild.

There being no further nominations, Mr. Little declared Mr. Smith duly elected. (Loud applause.)

Responding, Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Little for his words of appreciation, and also thanked the members of the State Branch Committee for re-electing him to the office of President. Mr. Smith said he would visit Great Britain, the United States, Canada, etc., and it would be an honour and a distinct advantage to him to go abroad as President of the New South Wales State Branch of the Guild.

Vice-President.—Mr. J. Little was re-elected as Vice-President.

Hon. Treasurer.—Mr. W. F. Pinerua was re-elected as Hon. Treasurer.

Committeemen agreed with the President's remarks that Mr. Pinerua had made every effort to carry out the duties of Treasurer. A good job successfully done.

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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

Federal Delegate.—Mr. O. C. V. Leggo was re-elected as Federal Delegate.

Second Delegate.—Mr. L. W. Smith was re-elected as Second Delegate.

Election of Sub-Committees.

Trade and Commerce, Planning and Publicity.—Messrs. J. Little, O. C. V. Leggo, W. F. Pinerua, R. S. Leece, R. W. Feller, L. M. Fox, K. W. Jordan, L. W. Smith.

Repatriation, Lodge and Hospital Dispensing.—Messrs. R. W. Feller, K. E. Thomas, W. F. Pinerua, J. Little, W. G. Sapsford, R. K. Strang, L. W. Smith.

Pricing.—Messrs. K. E. Thomas, J. Little, R. S. Leece, W. G. Sapsford, L. M. Fox, L. W. Smith, C. D. Bradford.

Industrial and Early Closing.—Messrs. L. W. Smith and R. K. Strang.

Pharmacists (State) Conciliation Committee.—Regular Member: Mr. L. W. Smith. Alternate Member: Mr. A. E. Conolly.

State Liaison Committee.—Messrs. L. W. Smith, J. Little, R. K. Strang, C. D. Bradford.

Representative on Health Week Council.—Mr. J. Little.

Meeting with Federal President.—The President said that the State Executive plus Mr. Leggo and Mr. Thomas would meet Mr. Eric Scott and the Federal Secretary (Mr. T. B. Evans) on September 15.

Annual General Meeting.

Resolutions Passed.—The Secretary read the resolutions which had been passed, stating they had been conveyed to the Federal Secretary for discussion at the forthcoming Federal Council meeting.

"That this, the New South Wales State Branch of the Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild, requires that in future a properly audited balance-sheet and income and expenditure account be published with the Annual Report of this State Branch, and that the Federal Council takes the necessary steps to acquaint members of the Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild generally with its financial position."

P.B.A. and P.M.S.

"That the Federal Council be instructed to insist that the price variations in operation on or before the 10th of any month must be included in the prices schedule and payable from the first of the next succeeding months."

P.B.A. and P.M.S.

"That the Federal Council be instructed to refuse any exemptions from the application of the Guild Wastage Factor Table in respect of any tablet on the P.B. or P.M.S. lists unless:—

- The number of prescriptions for that particular tablet on which no brand or manufacturer's name is specified or
- The number of prescriptions for any one given brand reaches a velocity of 15 per cent. of total number of prescriptions for all tablets. Such exemptions to be subject to annual review on July 1 of each year."

Date of Special General Meeting.—It was decided to hold the special general meeting after the meeting of the Federal Council, say, in mid-November.

Federal Delegate's Report.—Mr. Smith said Federal Office Circular No. 3 had been circulated.

Mr. Smith read a letter which the Federal President had sent to Sir Earle Page on August 30, dealing with Pharmaceutical Benefits matters.

Representative's Report.—Mr. Coad reported that the advent of the change in sales tax had brought about a great influx of price variations from numerous firms. The necessary information was incorporated in the Guild Service Bulletin, and cut outs had been provided to paste in the retail list No. 15. Retail Price List No. 16 would be issued at the end of September. The

production of the N.S.W. Prescription Proprietaries List was also in hand, and it would be ready at the end of the month. The proofing of the retail list and the stencils for the P.P. list would be classed as urgent, and would necessitate day and night attention so that the list should be out on time.

Reports of Sub-Committees were dealt with as follows:—

(a) Trade and Commerce, Planning and Publicity.—Letter from the Federal Merchandising Manager attaching information concerning the Vulcan Mixer Liquidiser, retail selling price £24/10/3. Noted.

Mr. L. Stuart James, Coolah, registering a protest at the iniquitous agreement with the Cosmetic Manufacturers' Association to bring into force the reduced price of cosmetics. It is an effrontery to set a "deadline" date, August 18. The Guild's attitude towards cosmetics has been weak. Received.

General.—Mr. Little said that Elliotts' travellers had expressed appreciation at the address given to them by Mr. Leggo. All had made favourable comments. Mr. Little referred to several other matters he had looked into, and said that a meeting of the Sub-Committee would be held as soon as possible.

(b) Repatriation, Lodge and Hospital Dispensing. Correspondence.—Mr. K. Attiwill, advising that hospital dispensing at Wentworth is not yet satisfactory. To be investigated. The Secretary said he had asked Mr. Davison for a full report.

Mr. B. Howard, Turramurra, forwarding P.M.S. prescriptions which have been rejected because Liq. Trinitrin is not a B.P. monograph. Mr. Thomas said that Liq. Trinitrin was a drug which was in common use. It was decided to write to the Federal Secretary, asking him to take up with Canberra the inclusion of the following drugs as permissible drugs in the P.M.S. list:—Liquid Trinitrin; Ephedrine Sulphate; Caffeine Citrate and Bis. Subnitrate.

Mr. J. David, Cardiff, enquiring if it is in order to collect for the G.U.O.O.F. Medical Services Fund. The Secretary said he had advised Mr. David it would be in order.

(d) Industrial and Early Closing.—Mr. Smith reported on the Chemists (State) Award result of the appeal. The appeal had been successful from the Guild's point of view. White coats were "out," employers did not have to supply or launder uniforms, coats, etc. Meal allowance had been reduced. The clause dealing with proportion of juniors to adults had been redrafted. The date of the operation of the pay increase had been altered from May 5 as formerly decided to August 4.

It was resolved that the Federal Delegate's report, the Representative's report and the reports of Sub-committees be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

New Members Elected.—Oscar Edward Lofberg, Rockdale; John Raymond McPhee, Cowra; and Dorothy Mary Sneyd, Ashfield.

Reinstatement.—Clarence Eaton Finn, King's Cross.

Alteration in Status.—A. E. Dimmock. Now: Estate of the late A. E. Dimmock, 255 Homer street, Earlwood.

Correspondence (Special).—Federal Secretary, enquiring if the State Branch Committee has any further remits for the annual meeting of the Federal Council. The Executive was empowered to send on any further remits if necessary.

Proposed New Poisons Act.—Guild Representation on Advisory Committee: It was resolved to apply to the Minister seeking the inclusion in the new Act of a provision for appointment of a Guild representative on the Advisory Committee.

The meeting rose at 11.10 p.m.

OCTOBER MEETING OF THE S.B.C.

Held at "Science House," 157 Gloucester street, Sydney, on October 9, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. L. W. Smith (Chairman), J. Little, W. F. Pinerua, R. W. Feller, R. S. Leece, W. G. Saps-

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MASCOT, SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES

Victorian Representative:

Miss M. Ford, 108 Queen Street, Melbourne

NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

ford, O. C. V. Leggo, C. D. Bradford, L. M. Fox, K. E. Thomas and K. Jordan.

Date of Special General Meeting.—It was resolved that the special general meeting be held on Wednesday, November 19, preferably in the Teachers' Federation Building, Phillip street, Sydney. The matter of drafting the notice of meeting was referred to the Executive for attention.

Federal Delegate's Report.—The Federal Delegate said the Federal Council meeting would commence in Melbourne on October 27.

Representative's Report.—Mr. Coad reported that the production of the Retail Price List, No. 16, and the N.S.W. edition of the P.P. List, went according to schedule. Both lists, together with the Guild Service Bulletin, were posted to subscribers on September 26, and the retail lists for Western Australia were airfreighted on the same day. The retail list was up to date to September 22. The P.P. List was up to date to receipt from Federal Office of the No. 1 alteration sheet. Since then, No. 4 alteration sheet had been received and published in last week's Bulletin. No. 5 alteration sheet would be published in this week's Bulletin.

It was resolved that the Federal Delegate's report and the Representative's report be received and adopted.

Report of Country Tour by Mr. L. W. Smith.—Mr. Smith said he would prepare a written report on his tour. On October 12 he would be proceeding to Melbourne regarding the building to be erected there by the Guild. He would also journey to Wentworth to discuss the hospital position with Mr. Davison, and could also make the journey to Broken Hill. This was agreed.

Removal of Income Tax from Goodwill.—The secretary reported that a Bill before the House of Representatives removed taxation from goodwill. He had just returned from a lecture delivered by Mr. MacKeller White, of the Taxpayers' Association, concerning goodwill and other matters.

The meeting expressed itself as pleased that goodwill in respect of leasehold premises was now freed from income tax.

Reports of Sub-Committees were dealt with as follows:

(A) **Trade and Commerce, Planning and Publicity: Hillcastle Lines**—Comparison of Margins.—A comparison of profit margins as at September 27, 1951, and August 29, 1952, was submitted. Some lines showed a considerable reduction. For example, Camiltone Shampoo, 40 per cent., as at September, 1951, and 30 per cent. as at August 29, 1952.

(B) **"Gileseal" Packed Lines**—Special Discussion Night with Mr. Ingamells in Attendance.—It was decided that Mr. Little should ring Mr. Ingamells when the date of the next meeting of the Trade and Commerce Sub-Committee had been fixed.

Correspondence.—Mr. S. T. Dawson, Marrickville, submitting the following for serious consideration regarding sales tax: Taxable at 12½ per cent.: Feeding bottles, teats. Free of tax: Hypodermic needles, Kotex belts, Corn cures and Clinitec. Received.

Brookvale Brewing Co. Ltd., re Honey Stout.
Johnson & Johnson Pty. Ltd., advising reduced prices for "Modess"—new price 2/11. It was decided to write and thank Johnson & Johnson Pty. Ltd. for giving pre-advice that the new retail price would not become effective till October 20. Meantime, Modess charged on and after September 24 would be adjusted to the new trade price, thus giving chemists about one month to liquidate stocks purchased at the old price.

(C) **Pricing:**
Proposed Decontrol of Pharmaceutical Prescriptions.—It was reported that the pricing conference at Perth had referred this matter back to the separate State Prices Branches for appropriate action.

Correspondence (Special).—Minister for Health: Feels that separate representation of the Guild is not necessary on the Poisons Advisory Committee.

Mr. D. Ramsay, advising it is his intention to relinquish the position as a shareholder on behalf of the F.P.S. Guild in connection with A.C.A.

Federal Secretary, advising have taken up with the Department of Health, Canberra, the listing of Bismuth Sub-Nitrate; Caffein Citrate; Colchicine Sal.; Ephedrine Sulphate and Liq. Trinitrin, as drugs to be available under the Pensioner Medical Benefits.

Special correspondence was referred to the Executive for attention.

The meeting terminated at 11 p.m.

VICTORIA

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State
News

Miss M. T. Parle has now transferred to a pharmacy in Sydney.

Mr. H. W. Hanton will open a pharmacy at Station street, Seaford, early in November.

Mr. L. T. Fox has accepted a permanent post as manager for Everard & Anderson, Bentleigh; **Miss Howard** with Mr. G. Hutcheson, Kyabram; and **Mr. J. E. Simpson** with Mrs. H. M. Hughes, Lorne.

Mr. Gordon Murrie, who has been with the Geelong and District Hospital for some time, has terminated his appointment there, and has returned to South Australia, his home State.

Wedding.—At the Sandringham Presbyterian Church, on October 11, the marriage of Miss Joan Wallace, of Sandringham, to Mr. L. T. Fox, was celebrated. Congratulations.

MANAGERS AND RELIEVERS.

The following appointments have been notified during the month:—

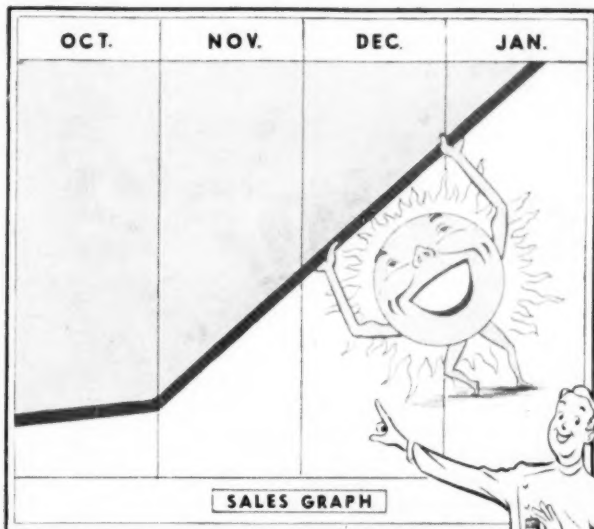
Mrs. E. M. Barton for Mr. K. Billings, U.F.S. Balwyn, and Mr. H. O. Challman, Kew; **Mr. J. Bell** for Mr. E. S. Bradley, Footscray, and at Bourke street Melbourne, and also for Mr. W. J. Langtry, Coburg; **Mr. E. Coombs** for Mr. S. A. Hirsch, Reservoir; **Mr. T. Collins** for Estate of Mr. J. Minnis, Boronia; **Mr. N. Davies** for Mr. G. L. Scott, Rosanna, and also for Messrs. Black & Son, Collingwood; **Miss E. G. Donaldson** for Mr. H. A. Braithwaite, Camberwell; **Mr. F. F. Eddie** for Mr. A. L. Noye, Collins Street, Melbourne; **Mr. C. D. Everett** for Mr. N. Thane, Glen Iris; **Mr. J. Ferguson** for Cumming's Pharmacy, Footscray; **Miss E. A. Emmons** for Mr. C. M. Pleasance, Prahran; **Miss Ellison** for Mr. L. West, Balclava; **Mr. L. Gurry** for Mr. K. L. C. Davies, Maffra; **Mr. A. P. Fry** for Messrs. Charles & Son, Richmond; **Mr. O. T. Higgins** for Mr. A. Redapple, Malvern; **Miss B. E. Homburg** for Ballarat Bede Hospital, Ballarat; **Mr. L. D. Holstock** for Mr. J. E. Chandler, East Brunswick; **Mr. B. L. Jacobson** for Mr. C. M. Pleasance, Prahran, and for Messrs. E. M. & D. F. De Boer, Rosebud West; **Mr. M. Kelleher** for Mrs. R. O. Castle, Malvern; **Mr. H. N. Lemmon** for Mr. N. R. Reeve, Toora; **Mr. T. King** for Mr. J. H. Dean, Elwood; **Mr. F. Kelley** for Mr. H. J. O'Halloran, Fitzroy, and Wilson's Pharmacy, Apollo Bay; **Miss K. Lyons** for Miss P. A. Cooney, Gardenvale; **Mr. J. W. Miller** for Mr. J. W. Pitney, Ascot Vale, and Mr. F. W. Partington, Camberwell; **Mr. Macfarlane** for Mr. J. E. Mahony, Belgrave; **Mr. L. F. Moller** for Messrs. Denny & Day, Melbourne; **Mr. C. P. O'Loughlin** for Mr. L. C. Langford, Stawell; **Mrs. Penicott** for Messrs. Bain & Co., St. Kilda; **Mr. N. R. Reeve** for Worland's Pharmacy, Collingwood; **Mr. R.**

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And at Sydney.

VICTORIA (Continued)

Sanderson for Mr. J. A. Johns, Maffra; Miss C. L. C. Savage for Estate of Mr. J. Minnis, Boronia, and Mr. N. Keith, Ashburton; Mr. A. Shaw for Mr. E. H. Baker, Warragul; Mr. F. S. T. Sare for Mr. A. Y. S. Wilson, Nyah West; Mr. F. L. Scott at Infectious Diseases Hospital, Fairfield; Mr. W. J. Taylor at Morrow's Pharmacy, Daylesford; Mr. R. J. Tighe for Mr. E. Edwards, Kaniva, and Mr. J. M. Sloan, Mortlake; Mr. G. W. Tait for Mr. R. De Forest, Collingwood, at Alfred Hospital, Prahran, and for Mr. V. J. Gild, Melbourne; Mr. F. H. Wheaton for Mr. H. L. Lee, Prahran; Miss J. G. Wignall for Mr. H. S. Cope, Flemington, and for Mr. T. G. Sullivan, Euroa; Miss M. Wallace for Mr. C. F. Beck, U.F.S., Elsternwick; Mr. I. C. Wood for Mr. C. Lewis, Corowa; Mr. J. M. Lang, Terang, and Mr. K. E. Hartley, Warragul.

COUNCIL MEETING AT HORSHAM.

The members of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria met at the Royal Hotel, Horsham, on the afternoon of October 6 for their monthly meeting. This visit follows the precedent set in recent years whereby the Council has travelled to a different country town each year in order to meet members of the Society and bring more directly to their notice the work of the Society.

Horsham is 186 miles north-west of Melbourne in the heart of the rich Wimmera district, and because of the long distance to be travelled several members made the outward journey on Sunday, October 5, and returned to their home towns on October 7—Mr. C. P. A. Taylor to BaNarat, Mr. G. H. Williams to Geelong, and Mr. L. Hamon to Numurkah, and the remainder to the city.

An innovation on this occasion was that the wives of the Council members and of the staff members also made the journey, and as guests of the wives of the Horsham chemists they were entertained privately and had a particularly enjoyable motor trip on the afternoon of October 6—a perfect sunny day—to the Grampians.

The visitors were officially welcomed by the Mayor of Horsham (Councillor W. J. Morson) in the Mayor's room before lunch on October 6.

Addresses.

Opportunity was taken in the evening to bring together the chemists, assistants and apprentices of Horsham and nearby towns to hear addresses by several of the visitors. At this meeting Mr. R. C. Burgess, of Horsham, was voted to the Chair. Those present were:—

Messrs. R. R. C. Burgess, H. R. Luker, G. A. McDonald, D. G. Quayle and G. LePlastrier, of Horsham; Mr. H. E. Taylor, of Dimbocla; Mr. A. E. Hands, of Murtoa; Mr. R. D. O'Day, of Rupanyup; Mr. L. Mitchell, of Hopetoun; Messrs. M. and R. Macaulay, of Nhili; Messrs. L. C. Langford and J. M. Kriewaldt and Mrs. W. L. Schwartz, of Stawell.

Council Members and Executives present were: Messrs. A. G. Davis (President), S. J. Baird, L. Hamon, A. L. Hull, F. W. Johnson, L. Long, V. G. Morison, E. Scott, C. P. A. Taylor, I. J. Thompson, G. H. Williams (members of the Council), W. R. Iliffe (Guild Liaison representative), A. T. S. Sissons, F. C. Kent, K. G. Attiwill and T. G. Allen.

Mrs. P. A. Crawford, a member of the Council, was unable to attend, and tendered an apology.

The President called on various members of the Council to address the meeting on special aspects of the Council's work, and these addresses were given by Mr. I. J. Thompson, who spoke on Pharmaceutical Education, Mr. S. J. Baird, on the work of the Building and Finance Committee, Mr. F. W. Johnson, on the A.P.F., Mr. L. Long, on the work of the Medico-Pharmaceutical Liaison Committee, Mr. A. T. S. Sissons,

on the College of Pharmacy, Mr. E. Scott, on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act, Mr. W. R. Iliffe, on the activities of the Victorian Branch of the Guild, Mr. F. C. Kent, on matters of general pharmaceutical interest, and Mr. K. G. Attiwill, on the Public Relations Secretariat.

Mr. Scott's Address.

Mr. Scott said he had been asked to speak on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act, and in doing so he wanted to traverse a little ground and take the audience back to the original meetings with Mr. Chifley when this scheme was propounded. He did this because some of those present probably had a part in consenting to pharmacy participating in the national scheme. When it was first put up to Mr. A. W. McGibbony and himself by Mr. Chifley they realised what a tremendous alteration would come over pharmacy by changing their private customers for the Government. It was a decision which could only be made by the rank and file of pharmacy. It was unanimously decided that Government intervention in their profession was inevitable, and that provided certain conditions were met by the Government they would participate. Chief among those conditions were that their monetary returns would not be lessened; that their identity as chemists would be maintained; and their professional safety guarded.

As they knew, under the Labour Party, the scheme got a very bad hearing from the B.M.A. and never came to fruition. When Sir Earle Page became Minister of Health they knew there would be a different programme to meet. Sir Earle Page had met the various sections and propounded his idea of a national scheme. Nobody could gainsay that the idea of giving these life-saving drugs would be good for the people. The chemists were naturally concerned particularly with their part in the scheme. They were concerned that it differed from a compounded scheme, and they had embarked upon it with a great deal of trepidation.

Pharmaceutical Defence Limited

FORTIETH ANNUAL MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that the 40th Annual Meeting of Pharmaceutical Defence Limited will be held at the registered office of the company, 360 Swanston Street, Melbourne, on **Wednesday, November 26, 1952**, at the conclusion of an Extraordinary General Meeting, called for 9.30 a.m.* on the same date, when the attendance of members is respectfully requested.

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm the minutes of the thirty-ninth Annual Meeting.
 2. To receive and adopt the Annual Report and Balance-sheet.
 3. To elect two Directors in place of Messrs. E. W. Braithwaite, of Hawthorn, and B. L. Warner, of Geelong, who retire by rotation, but are eligible for re-election, and offer themselves accordingly.
 4. To elect Auditors and fix their remuneration. Messrs. Osborn, Fenwick & Co. are the retiring Auditors.
 5. To transact any other business, due notice of which shall have been given.
- Dated at Melbourne this 30th day of October, 1952.

By Order of the Board,

T. G. ALLEN, Secretary.

* An Extraordinary General Meeting will be held at 9.30 a.m. immediately prior to the Annual General Meeting on November 26, to consider and if thought fit adopt amendments to the Articles of Association.

The Government had asked for a review of the terms, which would begin soon. He hoped that in the end pharmacy would be able to maintain its contract and show that it knew what it wanted, that it had the strength to back up its demands, and was not going to be thrown to one side. He had the greatest faith in the 3000 chemists of Australia, and he commended Mr. Sissons' statement that at no time was unity in pharmacy so important as it was now. (Applause.)

The speeches occupied a period of 2½ hours, ending at 10.40 p.m. Supper was then served, and informal discussion continued until shortly after 11 p.m.

CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' OPEN GOLF DAY.

Held at Woodlands Golf Links on October 7, the annual C. & D. Golf Day was one of the best attended golf outings for the trade held since the cessation of

World War II. Favoured with a glorious, bright spring day, 96 starters took out cards, and the high standard of play in both wholesale and retail sections necessitated several counts back to decide the ultimate winners of some sections.

The Woodlands course was in wonderful condition and played well, whilst nothing was omitted in the club house to cater for the wants of the visitors.

The Victorian Chemists' Golfers' Club, who managed and arranged the day, with the co-operation of Woodlands staff and professional, are to be congratulated on the very efficient manner in which the events were conducted and the smoothness of the proceedings.

To all those wholesalers and manufacturers who so willingly and generously subscribed to the trophy list go the best thanks of all competitors.



Members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria and their wives were welcomed and entertained by municipal and business leaders during their visit to Horsham for a meeting of the Council of the Society on October 6. Councillor W. J. Morson, Mayor of Horsham, gave the visitors a civic reception at the Horsham Town Hall. The Mayor is shown in the photograph at the top left with (from left to right) Mr. A. T. S. Sissons, Dean of the College of Pharmacy; Mr. Gavin Williams, of Geelong, a former Vice-President of the Victorian Branch of the Guild (standing behind the Mayor); Mr. A. G. Davis, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria; Mr. Eric Scott, Federal President of the Guild, who is also a member of the Council of the Society; and Mr. Ivan J. Thompson, Vice-President of the Society and Chairman of the Federal Pharmaceutical Public Relations Committee.

Mr. C. P. A. Taylor, of Ballarat, a Council member, is shown (top right) in conversation with Mr. R. R. Burgess, of Horsham, before a meeting of Wimmera chemists, which was addressed by members of the Council and of the Guild. Mr. Burgess was Chairman.

"Candid camera" study in expression (bottom left) of part of the audience at the meeting, and a group (bottom right) before the meeting began.

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630 Price Tickets, ranging from 3d. to 5/-.	And
600 Price Tickets, ranging from 5/- to 15/-.	70 Blank Price Tickets.

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61 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE C.I.

VICTORIA (Continued)

At the conclusion of the golf, the ceremony of presentation of prizes to the winners was performed by Mr. H. Nicholas, of Nicholas Pty. Ltd.

In introducing Mr. H. Nicholas to the large gathering, the President of the Victorian Chemists' Golf Club, Mr. E. Beacham, thanked Mr. Nicholas for officiating, his own executive for their excellent work, and expressed his club's and players' appreciation of the excellent support given by the wholesalers and manufacturers. He expressed the hope that all had enjoyed themselves to the utmost. He asked Commander Heriot, the Woodlands Manager, to convey their thanks to the Executive of his club for their hospitality. He reminded his audience that the next outing would be Charity Day, on November 19, at Huntingdale, and that the funds raised would be, as previously, for the Girl Guide Extension (Spastic, Polio, etc.), and he hoped that there would be a big muster for such a noble cause.

He asked prize-winners to come forward as their respective names were announced. The following were the prize-winners:—

Event No. 1:

C. & D. Cup, with Replica and Best Nett Score:
69 nett; W. Wishart, on count back from E. S. Appel and L. H. Walker.

Runner-up Trophy:

69 nett; L. H. Walker, on count back from E. S. Appel.

Best Scratch Score:

Retail: 84; U. S. Lucas.
Wholesale: 79; M. Ross.

Handicap:

0-9, Retail, 78 nett; Alex Hallett, on count back from W. Gear.

0-9, Wholesale, 77 nett; Alan Read.

10-18, Retail, 71 nett; A. D. Edmonston.

10-18, Wholesale, 71 nett; B. Haigh.

19-27, Retail, 70 nett; G. L. Belleville.

19-27, Wholesale, 70 nett; B. Hornidge.

Open Best of 9 Holes Out: 32½ nett; G. Gorey.

Open Best of 9 Holes In: 35 nett; M. Rochlin.

Special Trophy Best Country Player: 74 nett; V. Gemmola.

Event No. 2:

Serviceman's Trophy: 69 nett; E. S. Appel.

Event No. 3:

9 Hole 4 Ball Best Ball:

1st nine:

7 up; A. O. Dixon and P. Cornell.

Runners-up: 4 up; A. Edmonston and L. H. Walker.

2nd nine:

6 up; F. Montegano and Geo. Gorey.

Runners-up: 3 up; E. S. Appel and H. Henshall.

Putting:

Wholesale: Gordon Collins

Retail: W. Wishart.

Trophy List.

Trophies were donated by the following companies:

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Thar Manufacturing Co.

Rocke, Tomsitt & Co. Ltd.

Kodak (A'sia) Pty. Ltd.

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Ltd.

J. C. Eno Pty. Ltd.

Walter Cornell & Sons, Bal-

arat.

Parke Davis & Co. Ltd.

Rexona Pty. Ltd.

Victoria Drug Co.

J. McGloin Pty. Ltd.

Sigma Co. Ltd.

Felton, Grimwade & Duer-

dins Pty. Ltd.

Nestle & Anglo-Swiss Con-

densed Milk Co. (Aust.)

Ltd.

Johnson & Johnson Pty.

Ltd.

Fred Stearns & Co. Division

of Sterling Drug Inc.

Bristol Myers Co. Pty. Ltd.

Michaelis Hallenstein & Co.

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Colgate Palmolive Pty. Ltd.

Wyeth Inc.

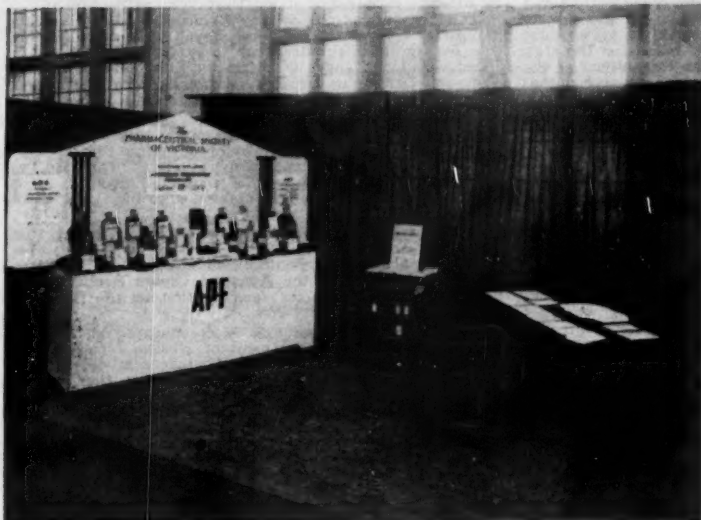
P.C.D. Pty. Ltd.

W. J. Bush & Co. (Aust.)

Ltd.

The club August outing, held at Kew, was played under adverse conditions, but Reg Francis returned a 38 Stableford, which duly collected a well-earned trophy. This was presented to him at Woodlands.

—Robert W. Brodrick,
Hon. Secretary.



A.P.F. exhibit arranged by the Pharmaceutical Society at the Australian Medical Congress Trade Exhibition in the Anatomy School, University of Melbourne, in August, 1952.

PHARMACY BOARD

Monthly Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of Victoria met at 360 Swanson street, Melbourne, on October 8, at 2.15 p.m.

Present.—Mr. S. J. Baird (President) in the Chair, Messrs. H. A. Braithwaite, A. W. Callister, W. R. Liffé, N. C. Manning, A. W. McGibbony, W. Wishart, and the Registrar.

Correspondence.—The correspondence submitted included the following:—

To the Secretary, Manufacturers' Association Ltd., Sydney, forwarding copies of "A Guide to the Prescribing and Dispensing of Dangerous Drugs and Specified Drugs."

To Mr. V. G. Morieson, extending sympathy of the President and members in his recent bereavement.

To the Department of Health, advising that an Inspector of the Board had interviewed the manager of the factory of a Melbourne company in connection with reports of bursting of bottles of Hydrogen Peroxide, and stating that nothing was found wrong with the samples. A copy of the warning label to be affixed to containers in future was attached.

To the Victorian Branch of the Guild, intimating that the Board is of opinion that the question of production of prescriptions for Cortisone preparations is a matter between the prescribing doctor and the chemist concerned.

From a National Service trainee, enquiring what arrangements could be made for supervision of his Preliminary Examination in November. Advised that arrangements could be made for the examination to be held in camp.

From the Victorian Branch of the Guild, suggesting a meeting with representatives of the Board to consider the question of the control of the Dangerous and Specified Drugs, the storage of poisons, etc. It was resolved that a meeting with representatives of the Guild be arranged.

Mr. Braithwaite reported on an interview he had had with the Chief Commissioner of Police on the subject of control of Dangerous Drugs. He said that if thought desirable an arrangement could be made for Det.-Sgt. DeLany to address members of the Executives of the Pharmaceutical Organisations. The Board agreed that such a meeting should be arranged.

Formal Business.—The following formal business was dealt with during the month:—

Applications for Registration.—Thomas Dixon Adamson, John Ernest Bullock, Donald Raymond Currie, Noel Herbert Hunt, Joseph Kiers, Douglas Peel Arthur Mayson, Charles Patrick O'Loughlin, Geoffrey Alfred Saunders, Kevin O'Brien, Maureen Wilson Stewart (Final Exam. Vic.), John George Forrest Blakeman (Cert. Ph. Soc. of Gt. Brit., subject to confirmation).

Restoration of Names to Register.—Ena Eveline Bolton (Mrs. Blyth), Harry Spencer Lamb, William Benjamin Reid, Ellis William Waters.

Erasures from Register.—Herbert Charles Morieson (decd. 16/9/52), Charles Hurrey Peacock (decd. 6/9/52).

Apprenticeship Indenture Transferred.—1.

Managers and Relievers Notified.—75.

New Businesses Opened.—4.

Business Change Notified.—1.

Certificates of Identity Issued.—5.

Opium Permits Issued.—5.

Permits to Purchase Cyanide Issued.—9.

Licences as General Dealers in Poison Issued.—2.

Licences to Sell Poisonous Substances Issued.—21.

Licences to Sell Dangerous Drugs by Wholesale Issued.—2.

Licences to Manufacture Dangerous Drugs Issued.—1.

Licences to Hospitals to Have Dangerous Drugs in Possession Issued.—11.

Early Entries—November Final Examination.—22.

Inspectors' Reports, Enquiries, etc.—The Chief In-

spector's summary of activities for the month was tabled. The following matters were reported:—

A report that a veterinary preparation containing poison was being sold in plain bottles was investigated. The Inspector reported that poison bottles were now being used, and that there were no breaches of the Regulations.

A complaint was received from a member of the public regarding medicines dispensed at a dispensary. The Chief Inspector had interviewed the person concerned and the dispenser, and the matter had been amicably settled.

A further report was made concerning arrangements for distribution of medicines at a depot conducted by a dispensary. In the opinion of the Board the provisions of the Regulations were not being observed, and it was resolved that the matter be further discussed with the Secretary of the Dispensary.

A report that some poisons were in stock at a depot conducted by a pharmaceutical chemist was investigated. One or two items covered by the poisons schedules were found and were withdrawn from sale.

A.P.C. Mixture was found in stock in stores visited by Inspector Ahern. Storekeepers concerned and the manufacturers were informed that sale of this line was a breach of the Regulations. This ruling had been contested by the manufacturers. The Board confirmed the Inspector's decision, and directed that the manufacturer be informed that sales must be discontinued.

Reports were received regarding faulty records in Dangerous Drugs Registers. The Board directed that legal proceedings be taken in cases where warnings by the Inspectors had not been heeded.

A report was received from the police concerning failure of a pharmaceutical chemist to make the entries required by the Regulations in a Dangerous Drugs Register, and failing to keep all Dangerous Drugs in a locked cupboard. The Board approved of legal proceedings being instituted in this case.

The Chief Inspector reported several breaches of the Poisons Regulations by storekeepers, who had sold poisonous substances without a licence and without compliance with the labelling provisions of the Regulations. Resolved that legal proceedings be taken.

A report was received from Inspector Ahern on his visit to various stands at the Royal Agricultural Show.

Copies of a circular sent to holders of licences to manufacture Dangerous Drugs and to holders of licences to sell Dangerous Drugs by wholesale were tabled and were approved.

Control of Thallium.—Draft proclamations for amendment of the Poisons Schedules and the Poisons Regulations, with the object of imposing stricter control over Thallium and preparations of Thallium, as agreed by the Board at a previous meeting, were tabled, and approved for submission to the Department of Health.

Dangerous Drug Schedules.—The Registrar reported that amendments of the Schedules in relation to preparations of Heroin, Pentidine and Desomorphine were being prepared by the Assistant Crown Solicitor, and would be available for consideration by the Board at the next meeting.

The Poisons Schedules.—A communication was received from the Department of Health, forwarding a list of drugs which the Patent Medicines Advisory Committee suggested should be covered by the Poisons Schedules. It was resolved that the list be referred to the Poisons Schedules Advisory Panel for report.

Control of Cortisone and Preparations.—The Registrar reported that new conditions for the supply of preparations of Cortisone had been announced. The Commonwealth Department of Health now advised that Cortisone prescriptions for eye preparations, if prescribed by a recognised eye specialist, need not be submitted to the Department of Health. Such prescriptions could be forwarded by a chemist to his wholesale house, which would have a list of members of the Ophthalmological Association in their possession. Provided the prescription was written by a member

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VICTORIA (Continued)

of that Association, the wholesale house could supply the drug without reference to the Department of Health. Other prescriptions for Cortisone preparations would still be subject to the present method of control. In the discussion which took place it was noted that under this system chemists could not comply with the requirements of the Regulations, which required cancellation of prescriptions for Specified Drugs and certain other formalities. It was resolved that the matter be discussed with representatives of the Department of Health.

Finance.—The Honorary Treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement, and accounts totalling £644/9/2 were passed for payment.

The meeting then adjourned.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria met at Horsham, on October 6, at 2.15 p.m.

Present.—Mr. A. G. Davis (President) in the Chair, Messrs. S. J. Baird, L. A. Hamon, A. L. Hull, F. W. Johnson, L. Long, V. G. Morieson, E. Scott, C. P. A. Taylor, I. J. Thompson, G. H. Williams, F. C. Kent (Secretary), and T. G. Allen (Minutes Secretary).

Messrs. W. R. Iliffe (Guild representative), A. T. S. Sissons (Dean of the College of Pharmacy), and K. G. Attiwill (Public Relations Secretariat), were also in attendance.

An apology for non-attendance was received from Mrs. P. A. Crawford.

The correspondence submitted included the following:—

To Mr. V. G. Morieson, expressing Council's sympathy on death of his brother.

Correspondence concerning serious illness of Dr. E. M. Watson (W.A.). Council's sympathy conveyed. Letter of thanks from Mrs. Watson.

To Mr. F. S. T. Sare, congratulating him on occasion of Golden Wedding. Mr. Sare's letter of thanks.

Letters of introduction to Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain on behalf of two Victorian chemists—Miss G. M. Bethell and Miss Helen M. Hovendene.

To Superintendent of Telephones, requesting assistance in installing telephone at premises of a member.

To Mr. F. J. Boyd, of Ivanhoe, congratulating him on his re-election to the Heidelberg City Council.

Full Members Elected.—New: Brenda Margaret Boyd, and Barry James Hall. **Transfer from Apprentice:** John Walters Gillan.

Kitchen Facilities.—Mr. Sissons reported that Mrs. I. J. Thompson had conferred with Miss Witt and himself with regard to installation of facilities for preparation of refreshments for functions held in the Museum. It was suggested that a movable steel sink with appropriate heating facilities be installed in the Preparation Room, and this suggestion was approved by the Council.

Complaint.—A communication was received from the Medical Secretary of the B.M.A. in reply to a letter from the Society concerning the actions of a doctor who had criticised a member of the Society, who had pointed out that P.B.A. and P.M.S. prescriptions should not be written on the one form. The medical practitioner concerned had since called on the chemist and the matter had been settled amicably.

Control of Cortisone.—Further consideration was given to the method of control of preparations of Cortisone by the Commonwealth.

Mr. Hull related an experience he had had, and pointed out that it was not possible for a chemist to comply with the requirements of State law if the procedure set down by the Commonwealth was carried out.

The Secretary said that the control had been modified. It was now provided that prescriptions written by members of the Ophthalmological Society could be dispensed without reference to the Department of Health. The chemist was required to forward the prescription to his wholesale house. The Council considered the procedure still unsatisfactory as the chemist still was not in a position to cancel the prescription, as required by the regulations. It was agreed that the matter be discussed with the Commonwealth Health Department.

Reports of Committees:

Education Committee. — The Chairman, Mr. I. J. Thompson, reported as follows:—

The Committee met during the month and considered a number of matters.

It recommended that Mr. E. E. Nye be asked to act as Supervisor of Studies and Programmes during the absence of the Dean in 1953; the report of Messrs. Callister and Manning on the correlation of practical dispensing exercises in the pharmacy and at the College—recommended that suggestions be implemented. It further recommended that letters of thanks be sent to Messrs. Callister and Manning for the very excellent report prepared.

Consideration was given by the Committee to problems associated with National Service Training of apprentices. In regard to this matter, the committee were unanimously of opinion that exemption could not be sought for pharmacy students, but that the best possible arrangements should be made so that there would be no undue interference with studies. Certain recommendations were made by the Committee in regard to the ceremonial presentation of diplomas, and procedure within the College.

The report was adopted.

Education and Finance Committee. — Recommendations for increases in College fees for the year 1953 submitted by the Education and Finance Committee were adopted, and a recommendation that advertisements be inserted in the daily press and "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy," calling for applications for a Lecturer in Chemistry, was approved.

Building Committee. — The Chairman of the Building Committee, Mr. S. J. Baird, reported on the meeting held on September 10, when it was recommended that the tender submitted by Morris & Sons for conversion of the Biology Room to a lecture room be accepted.

Mr. Baird also reported on discussions which had taken place concerning negotiations connected with the proposed rebuilding of the College of Pharmacy. The report was adopted on the motion of Mr. Baird, seconded by Mr. Hamon.

Discussions on Pharmaceutical Education. — The President reminded members of the invitation extended by Mr. K. Porter and Mr. E. F. Lipsham for representatives of the various States to visit Adelaide for further discussions on Pharmaceutical Education in January, 1953. The Secretary said that advice had now been received that the most suitable dates would be from February 9-12, 1953. Messrs. H. A. Braithwaite, A. W. Callister, I. J. Thompson and A. T. S. Sissons were nominated as the Society's representatives.

Suggested Annual Church Service. — Mr. Attiwill reported on discussions he had had with regard to the suggestion that Annual Church Services for Pharmacy be conducted at St. Paul's and St. Patrick's Cathedrals. The fourth Sunday in July had been suggested tentatively as a suitable date. The Dean, Mr. Sissons, suggested that a more appropriate date might be about the time of graduation. He voiced the opinion that a church service meant nothing if it was not truly inspirational. It was agreed that further consideration be left with the Executive.

Year Book. — Consideration was given to the question of further publication of the Year Book. The Treasurer pointed out that the cost to the Society for postage in 1952 was substantial. After considerable discussion by the Council the opinion was reported



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VICTORIA (Continued)

that the Year Book should be continued if it could be produced without cost to the Society.

Travelling Scholarship Fund.—It was reported that over £1200 had been subscribed. Mr. Thompson said that a further communication was being sent to members who had not as yet contributed. Report received.

Dispensing for Penridge.—A communication from the Director-General of Penal Establishments stated that approval had been given for the appointment of qualified chemists to undertake dispensing for inmates of Penridge following the representations that had been made by the Society. A fee of £2/2/- for a two-hour session had been fixed by the Public Service Board. The Secretary said he had replied that this offer was unacceptable, and he was seeking an appointment with the Public Service Board for further discussion.

It was resolved that the matter be left in the hands of the Chairman of the Hospital Dispensing Committee and the Secretary.

Allowance of S.V.R.—Reference was made to a communication from the Collector of Customs, outlining new conditions for the supply of S.V.R. to chemists after January, 1953. The monthly allowance without guarantee had been reduced from five gallons to two gallons, and every chemist requiring supplies was compelled to make application, nominating his supplier and stating the monthly quantity required. Mr. Scott said the provision seemed onerous, and he thought some objection should be made. The question was a Federal one, and any action taken should be on a Federal basis.

It was resolved that the matter be left in the hands of the Federal President of the Guild, the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies, and the Public Relations Secretariat.

Special Class in Practical Pharmacy.—The Secretary reported that this class had been organised, and that the first session was scheduled for the night of October 6. There were nine enrolments, and the fee had been fixed at £8/8/-.

Financial.—The Honorary Treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement, and accounts totalling £3706/16/1 were passed for payment.

THE P.D.L.

Directors' Meeting

The 347th meeting of the Directors of Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd. was held at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on October 22, at 9.30 a.m.

Present.—Mr. E. W. Braithwaite (in the Chair), Messrs. N. C. Cossar, E. A. O. Moore, F. N. Pleasance, C. C. Wallis, B. L. Warner, and the Secretary.

Articles of Association.—It was reported that the queries discussed at the last meeting had been taken up with Mr. Pearcey and disposed of, and alterations suggested by the Directors had been incorporated in the draft resolution for submission to members at the extraordinary meeting to be held on November 26.

Correspondence.—From a suburban chemist, forwarding application for membership, and requesting that a number of insurances held with other companies be transferred to Melbourne Fire Office Ltd.

From the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, advising that, by arrangement with the Chief Commissioner of Police, Detective-Sergeant Delaney would address a meeting of executives of the pharmaceutical organisations on the question of the responsibility of the Police Department in relation to control of dangerous drugs. The date tentatively suggested for this meeting was November 7, at 8.15 p.m. The P.D.L. was invited to send two representatives. It was resolved that Mr. E. W. Braithwaite and Mr. B. L. Werner be nominated to represent the P.D.L.

From the Public Relations Secretariat, enclosing a full-page advertisement from "The Saturday Evening Post" on the subject of "Hospitalisation Coverage" through the Travelers Insurance Company of U.S.A. This advertisement, with comment and suggestions, had been sent to the Secretariat by Mr. Sydney Hull, of Glen Iris. Mr. Attiwill asked that the correspondence be brought to the notice of the Directors. Following discussion it was resolved that in view of the present arrangement whereby chemists acted as agents for the Hospital Benefits Association, the P.D.L. could not initiate a similar arrangement offering greater advantages to Pharmacy or to pharmacists.

To the Branch Secretaries, forwarding copies of the proposed alterations to the Articles of Association.

From the Queensland Branch Secretary, notifying that Mr. R. C. Rutter, who had been Chairman of the Queensland Local Board of the P.D.L., had died in U.S.A. on September 20. The Secretary said that, with the authority of the Chairman, he had sent a message of sympathy by cable to Mrs. Rutter in America, followed by an airmail letter.

New Members Elected.—Miss Ailsa B. Jenkins, Mildura; Messrs. Peter O. Cantillon, Richmond; Douglas L. McColl, Warracknabeal; Beresford L. M. Miles, East Kew; Philip S. Mylecharane, Box Hill; Brian F. Williams, Geelong; James A. Wilson, Fitzroy; and Alan W. Rogers, Drouin.

Journal Report.—Mr. Cossar reported on the Annual Meeting of the Journal Publishing Company and the meeting of the Board of Management, held since the last meeting of the Directors.

Mr. Cossar said Mr. H. A. Braithwaite had asked him to mention the P.P. Card Service and to seek comment on the practical usefulness of the Card Service from any subscribers to the scheme.

Legal Defence.—Arising out of a death by poisoning in a country district, it was possible that a member might be called as a witness at the inquest. Action taken to ensure that the member would have legal representation at the inquest, should he be called, was confirmed.

Annual Report.—The Annual Report of the Directors was dealt with and approved for despatch to the members.

Financial.—The Hon. Treasurer presented the monthly financial statement, and accounts totalling £1351/15/3 were passed for payment.

The meeting closed at 12.30 p.m.

THE GUILD

S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the Victorian Branch of the Guild met at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on September 30, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Mr. W. R. Iliffe (President) in the Chair; Messrs. A. K. Lloyd, N. F. Keith, W. J. Langtry, A. Aronson, F. J. Attwood, A. O. C. Blake, A. F. Frederiksen, H. V. Gear, L. J. Gough, L. Hamon, F. N. Lee, W. R. Lumley, A. E. Moore, E. C. McClelland, J. I. Richards, J. B. Robinson, E. Scott, B. Hornby, and the Secretary.

Attending by Invitation.—Messrs. T. B. Evans, K. Attiwill and R. G. Ross.

Correspondence.—From the Federal Treasurer, re Guild request for exemption from sales tax of certain lines, and stating that the Government was unable to give any further relief at the present time.

From the Pharmacy Board, advising that Cortisone for eye drops could now be supplied through a chemist on the prescription of an eye specialist without first obtaining a permit from the Health Department.

New Member Elected.—Mr. A. Fussell, of Wodonga.

Executive Meeting.—Mr. Iliffe reported on a meeting of the Executive held on September 18.

Decontrol of Dispensing Fees.—The Executive has decided that an application should be made for de-



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VICTORIA (Continued)

control of dispensing fees, and had instructed the Secretary to submit a letter to that effect.

Remit on Education to Federal Council.—It was decided to frame a remit for submission to the Federal Council requesting that a Federal Committee be formed to investigate the present methods of education as applied to the training of apprentices in Pharmacy, with the view to improving the practical side of their training.

Dinner to Mr. A. Dorman.—The President advised that it had been decided by the representatives of Mr. Dorman's district (No. 3) to give Mr. Dorman a dinner in recognition of his long and faithful representation of the district on the S.B.C.

Visitor from U.S.A.—Mr. Iliffe related an interesting interview he had with Mr. Robertsac, a pharmacist from New Jersey, who was keen to secure all the details of the Guild set-up, with which he was apparently impressed.

Report of No. 1 District.—The delegate reported a very successful meeting of the city chemists on September 23, and presented the following remit:—

That No. 1 district advises the S.B.C. that it vigorously opposes any reduction in the schedule of profit margins that exist today; and

That the district is in favour of supporting any action the S.B.C. might recommend in this direction.

Report from C.S.L.—Mr. Hamon thanked Mr. Evans and Mr. Lee for the invitation to be present at the conference with S.C.L., and for allowing the interests of country chemists to take up practically the whole interview.

C.S.L. sell direct to farmers at retail prices. Veterinary surgeons get 20 per cent discount, and butter factories an additional 10 per cent.

Mr. Carter agreed to go into the question of supplying only through wholesalers at wholesale price.

Answering a complaint re the registering of small parcels, Mr. Carter said this seemed to be a custom from the early days and provided a receipt for delivery. He thought it would be possible to increase the value of parcels to be registered.

Distemper Vaccine.—Chemists could handle the vaccine, but it was agreed that it could be dangerous to distribute the immunisation virus in the same way. Tiger snake anti-venom was unobtainable, as supplies were short, and it was necessary to restrict to urgent cases, particularly for human beings. As stock becomes more plentiful, restrictions will be removed.

District 10B.—Mr. Lumley moved that formation of the bayside district be ratified. Mr. Lloyd seconded. Carried.

The President said he considered this area had justified its claim, and agreed to its request. The Secretary was directed to allot the district a number.

Answering a query as to whether it was to be known as a country or metropolitan district, Mr. Lee moved, seconded by Mr. Scott, that the new district be declared a country area. Carried.

Mr. Lumley was advised that an election to appoint a delegate, etc., would have to take place.

Death of Mr. Rutter.—The President drew members' attention to the sudden death of Mr. Rutter, who had been associated with the Guild in Queensland since its inception. He instructed that a letter of sympathy be sent to the Queensland Branch. A minute's silence was then observed by the meeting.

H.B.A.—Mr. Langtry expressed strong opposition to a move for H.B.A. to run two services. This would involve extra clerical work for chemists.

It was agreed that the President and Mr. Attiwill should interview H.B.A. and explain the Guild's difficulties, and where the plan was embarrassing them.

Pricing Lectures.—Mr. Keith informed the Committee that 1st and 2nd year students had received instruction in pricing.

The meeting closed at midnight.

QUEENSLAND

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State
News

Mr. W. G. Harvey has purchased the pharmacy at Malanda previously owned by the late Mr. P. H. Doyle.

Mr. W. A. Duffield has returned to Townsville after a motoring holiday to Brisbane.

To enable **Mr. R. M. McCawley**, of Indooroopilly, to take a vacation, **Mr. Peter Davidson** acted as locum during the month.

Surfers' Paradise was chosen by **Mr. H. G. E. Sneyd** for his vacation. During his absence **Miss U. M. Wilson** was in charge of his pharmacy at Cleveland.

Mr. J. M. Chapman has returned to Inglewood after several weeks spent in Brisbane. **Miss S. A. Morris** acted as locum during his absence.

Mr. G. H. Kirkup was in charge of the F.S. Dispensary at Townsville while the manager, **Mr. E. C. Lindsay**, was on vacation.

Mr. C. B. Schneider has purchased the pharmacy at Mitchell which he has managed for some years for **Mr. N. L. Topping**.

We offer good wishes to **Mr. W. J. Bouttell**, formerly of Caboolture, who is opening a pharmacy at 2 Boundary street, Coolangatta.

Mr. C. A. Nichol represented Queensland at the Annual Federal Council Meeting of the Guild held in Melbourne at the end of October. He was accompanied by **Mr. W. A. Lenehan**, who attended as second delegate.

Wedding.—We offer congratulations and good wishes to **Mr. Bruce Beatts**, of Indooroopilly, who was married to **Miss Valerie Steel**, of Cherside, in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Brisbane, on October 18.

Office-Bearers, Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland.

At the election of officers of the Society for the ensuing year the following were elected:—

President: Mr. R. S. F. Greig.

Vice-President: Mr. R. V. S. Martin.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. R. G. Gardner.

Other members of the Council are **Misses E. A. Everett**, **E. Chalmers**, **Messrs. V. Barnett**, **J. E. McCaskie**, **J. S. D. Mellick**, **L. A. Stevens**, **H. G. E. Sneyd**, **E. W. Vance** and **A. B. Williams**.

Chemist Bowling Notes.

Two rinks were present at Coorparoo on October 1, when the chemists enjoyed an afternoon's game against local members. The results of the day's play were:

Colledge, Roush, Riddell, Ward	18	22
Ockelford, Dowd, Lewis, Fitzsimmons	23	15
	41	37

The trophy for the day was for all-comers, and it was won by two visitors from outside clubs.

The play for November will be against Ashgrove Club on November 5, and a pairs competition will be held at Booroodabin on Sunday, November 9.

DEATH OF MR. R. C. RUTTER.

It was with very deep regret that we heard on September 20 of the death that day, in America, of our friend, **Reginald Conlon Rutter**. Mr. Rutter's death followed a heart attack. Mere words can but poorly express the widespread sense of grief and personal loss created by his death.

In July last Mr. and Mrs. Rutter left to visit their daughter in Philadelphia, U.S.A.—a joyous occasion which they had looked forward to for some time. Mr. Rutter was looking forward to returning with a wealth of information which he would have collected on his travels, but it has been ruled otherwise.

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QUEENSLAND (Continued)

Mr. Rutter was born in Drouin, Victoria, in 1882. Later the family moved to Queensland, where his father established himself as a pharmacist. Mr. Rutter was apprenticed to his father, the late Thomas Rutter. He qualified from the Queensland College of Pharmacy in 1906, and joined his father in business. Mr. Rutter carried on the pharmacy which was established by his father right up until he departed for America in July.

Soon after qualifying Mr. Rutter took an active interest in pharmaceutical matters, and in 1909 he was appointed a member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society. With a break during the war years, Mr. Rutter served on the Council of the Society until 1933, during which period he held executive positions. In recognition of his outstanding services to the Society, Mr. Rutter was elected an Honorary Life Member in 1933.

Whilst President of the Society in 1930, Mr. Rutter was also elected President of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand at the conference held in Brisbane during that year.

With the formation of the Guild in 1928, Mr. Rutter was one of the prime movers in the establishment of the Guild in this State. He had the distinction and honour of being a foundation member of the State Branch Committee of the Guild (24 years' membership), a position he held up to the time of his death. From 1929-1946 Mr. Rutter was State President. During this period he represented Queensland on the Guild Federal Council, and for a period also held the position of Deputy Federal President. Since his retirement as President of the Branch in 1946, Mr. Rutter maintained his interest as a member of the Committee, and his wise counsel and advice were sought on many occasions. For a considerable period Mr. Rutter was Guild representative on the Pharmacy Board. At the time of his death Mr. Rutter was Chairman of the Queensland Local Board of Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd.—a position he had held for some years. He also represented the Guild at the Industrial Court, on P.A.T.A. and other organisations.

In recognition of his devoted and meritorious services to the Guild, the Federal Council honoured him with Life Membership in 1946.

It is a coincidence that Mr. Rutter's last evening in Brisbane was spent with the Guild State Branch Committee at its July meeting, when opportunity was taken to bid him bon voyage.

One of his last acts whilst visiting America was to represent Queensland at the American Pharmaceutical Association Conference which was held in Philadelphia in August.

It can be truly said of Mr. Rutter that he was a stalwart of pharmacy in Queensland. He served the profession faithfully and well for over 40 years—probably holding the longest record of any Queensland pharmacist actively engaged in pharmaceutical affairs, and it is very hard to replace men of Mr. Rutter's calibre.

During the 1914-1918 war Mr. Rutter served with the 1st AGH with the rank of Captain.

Apart from pharmacy, Mr. Rutter took a keen interest in Masonic matters. In his younger days he played golf, and was a foundation member of Royal Queensland.

Within latter years Mr. Rutter suffered grievous losses—firstly by the death of his only son whilst a P.O.W. in Malaya, then his home was totally destroyed by fire, and two years ago the business premises he had occupied for so many years were sold. He withstood all these losses—such was the determination and courage of our friend.

We are going to feel Mr. Rutter's loss keenly from our circle. He always carried out his duties with honour and dignity. With his passing pharmacy has

lost a man of great worth, but his memory will ever remain.

To Mrs. Rutter, the devoted wife and helpmate of our departed friend, and her daughter we tender our heartfelt sympathy.

Tribute to the Late Mr. R. C. Rutter.

Mr. Eric Scott, Federal President of the Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild of Australia, said:

"Australian pharmacy has lost one of its dynamic characters in the passing of Reg. Rutter. For years he was the most powerful factor in representing the views of the chemists of Queensland. And now he is gone!

In the comparatively short pattern of the Guild since its first Federal Council meeting in 1928 we have seen the worth of those leaders in pharmacy who saw the Guild through its early struggles. They were individualists, every one of them, linked by a common desire to improve the conditions of the retail chemists and to demonstrate what can be achieved by unity among the chemists through membership of one national fighting force.

It was in that spirit that Reg. Rutter worked for his brother chemists. They will long remember him.

Reg. Rutter was a fearless fighter in any cause that he thought was just. He never spared himself, and really proved that he was one of the big men of pharmacy. At the formation of the Guild he threw himself heart and soul into the movement, and a great deal of the early success of the organisation was due to his contagious enthusiasm.

Reg. Rutter was a good debater, a firm friend, and an indefatigable worker for the advance of pharmacy.

Queensland can be proud of this man who bore more than his share of the federating of the chemists of Australia into a worthwhile unit.

I worked very closely with Reg. Rutter, and was proud of his friendship. He had an impressive record in pharmaceutical achievements.

Notwithstanding all these sparkling gems in his diadem, the Reg. Rutter I shall remember will be a warm, lovable human being with a great capacity for friendship."

A Tribute.

It falls to the lot of many men to serve, and to serve well, the cause of their chosen profession, and then, after many years of good service, to retire with honour and live in peace. To a comparative few, who are fated to die in harness, honourably discharging their duties in our profession, we accord an accolade of the highest order. Foremost amongst these, we number and revere the memory of Reg. Rutter.

To the many privileges it has been my good fortune to merit, I add the treasured memory of 20 years of friendship with Reg., as being outstanding. During his last work for his loved calling, it was my privilege to be associated with him, and I feel sure there is no need for me to emphasise the assiduity with which he applied himself to the task. It was his advice and sound judgment that lightened my burden during the week of convention in Philadelphia (U.S.A.), and our united efforts assisted in no small measure in promoting the goodwill of American Pharmacy in Australia's interest.

So passes a truly great Australian pharmacist, one who carried "the heat and burden of the day" during Pharmacy's formative period, a man whose byword was "integrity," and whose opinion was always sound and straight-forward.

Our deepest sympathy must go to Mrs. Rutter and her daughter, Pamela, and I know that they, too, will understand how we also mourn with them, their loss which is also ours.

Vale, Reg.

W. R. CUTLER (President),
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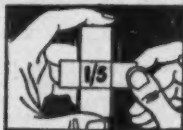
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QUEENSLAND (Continued)

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland met at Drysdale Chambers, Wickham street, Brisbane, on October 9 at 8 p.m.

Attendance.—Mr. R. V. S. Martin (Chairman), Misses E. A. Everett, E. Chalmers, Messrs. V. Barnett, A. B. Williams, L. Stevens, J. S. D. Mellick, J. M. McCaskie, R. G. Gardner, and the Assistant Secretary.

Correspondence.—To Pharmaceutical Association, advising that the Council gave full consideration with regard to representation of Australia in the International Pharmaceutical Federation, and considers the membership fee is too high in view of the questionable benefits accruing from membership.

Dr. Noel Gutteridge, thanking him for his thoughtful gesture in donating a pestle and mortar for display in the Society's museum.

To Mrs. R. C. Rutter, conveying to Mrs. Rutter and her daughter the Society's sincere sympathy in their sad bereavement.

To Mr. W. A. Lenehan, conveying to Mr. Lenehan and his brother deepest sympathy in their bereavement.

From Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand forwarding reports of the discussion on pharmaceutical education held in Sydney in August, advising that a discussion will take place on education in Adelaide early next year, and enquiring if this State would be represented. Mr. Martin intimated that this matter would be brought forward later in the evening.

An interesting letter was received from Mr. R. S. F. Greig, written from Nottingham, England.

Miss J. M. Bostock, advising that she has submitted an application for the Kodak Travelling Scholarship.

The Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies had also written advising that an application had been received from Miss Bostock concerning the Kodak Scholarship.

Applications for membership were approved as follows:—

Full Members: Miss E. E. McKenzie and Mr. G. Griffiths.

Associate Member: Mr. D. G. Kidd.

Reports on Journals.—Mr. McCaskie reported on the August issue of the "A.J.P." and Mr. Stevens on July and August editions of the British "Pharmaceutical Journal" and "Pharmacy International."

Pharmacy Board.—Mr. Martin reported on matters which were dealt with by the Board during the month.

Education.—Mr. Martin, as the Queensland representative to the discussions on pharmaceutical education which had been held in Sydney, gave a brief outline of the courses suggested by the various States. Mr. Martin mentioned that Victoria had some very revolutionary ideas regarding the course. Satisfaction was expressed regarding the suggested Queensland course.

A general discussion followed concerning what Queensland is doing at the present time re education.

National Service Training for Apprentices.—Mr. Mellick enquired if the Society had taken any steps regarding apprentices and national service training.

Mr. Martin said as far as he was aware it had been ascertained that pharmacy students, like University students, were to do their compulsory training in the summer vacation, so that their studies would not be unduly interrupted.

After discussion, Mr. Mellick suggested that the Secretary ring the Public Relations Officer at Victoria Barracks, and ascertain what is required and what their attitude is to apprenticeships and national service training.

This matter to be discussed at the next meeting of the Council.

Pharmaceutical Education.—Mr. Barnett said on behalf of the Council he would like to compliment Mr. Martin on representing Queensland at the recent conference, and for giving the Council a very good report. He would like the Council's thanks to Mr. Martin to be recorded in the Minutes.

Mr. Barnett moved that Queensland be represented at the South Australian meeting next year.

Miss Everett, who seconded Mr. Barnett's motion, said she would also like to thank Mr. Martin for what he had done on behalf of the Society.

Kodak Scholarship.—Mr. Martin stated that Miss J. M. Bostock had forwarded her application direct to Melbourne, but it had not come before the Queensland Selection Committee.

After discussion, Mr. Gardner moved that Mr. Kent be asked to forward Miss Bostock's application to this Council so that it could be placed before the Selection Committee. Seconded by Mr. Mellick. Carried.

Guest Members.—Mr. Barnett suggested that guest members be asked to attend these meetings, as it stimulated interest in the Society. It was agreed that two members be invited to attend future meetings.

Medico-Pharmaceutical Liaison Meeting.—Decision was reached regarding the items to be discussed at the next meeting of the Liaison Committee.

Year Book.—Mr. Barnett said he would like to congratulate the Year Book Sub-Committee on the completion of the Year Book, which would prove of interest to all.

Mr. Martin said he thought the articles contained therein would be of interest to members, but he would like to see the Year Book enlarged if possible. Mr. Barnett suggested that this matter should be discussed with the printer.

The meeting closed at 10.45 p.m.

THE GUILD

S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the Queensland Branch of the Guild met at Drysdale's Chambers, Brisbane, on October 2.

Attendance.—Mr. W. A. Lenehan (President), Messrs. F. H. Phillips, A. B. Chater, C. W. Noble, L. Hall, A. N. C. Munro, L. W. Huxham, and the State Secretary.

Tribute to Mr. Rutter.—The President said since the Committee had last met the sad news had come to hand of the death in America of our late Committee member, Reg. Rutter. Mr. Lenehan said the Committee and pharmacy generally would miss the services of Mr. Rutter. With his vast experience, clear thought and wise guidance he was a tower of strength. Mr. Lenehan said it was always very pleasing for him, personally, to realise that when he wanted some guidance or an opinion on any matter, there was always Mr. Rutter to whom he could turn for that assistance. With Mr. Phillips, Mr. Rutter had the distinction of being a foundation member of the State Branch Committee, and he continued his active association with the Committee until he left for America. They were looking forward to his return to learn of the information he had been able to gather in America, but it has been ruled otherwise. Mr. Lenehan said Mr. Rutter always carried out his duties with dignity and thoroughness, and he was held in the highest esteem by all.

Mr. Lenehan said letters of sympathy had been sent to Mrs. Rutter. He then asked those present to stand and observe a minute's silence in memory of Mr. Rutter.

QUEENSLAND (Continued)

Business Ex Minutes.

Dispensing Fees.—The meeting was informed that on September 16 another application was made to the Prices Commissioner for decontrol of dispensing fees.

After discussion, it was agreed that Officer, Hadley & Co. should present a report to the Committee on their findings, but not to proceed with the preparation of a case until word is to hand from the Prices Commissioner.

Report on Patents List.—The Secretary reported that this list had been distributed during the week, and from the reports to hand members were very pleased with it. To date over 240 members had subscribed to the pricing service, leaving 130 who had not yet done so.

It was resolved that a follow-up advice be sent to those members who had not yet subscribed.

Mr. Lenehan said he would like to pay tribute to the amount of time and work Mr. Nichol had spent on the production of the patents list. He thought it was a very good publication, and one which would prove its worth over and over again. Mr. Phillips said he had much pleasure in moving that it be recorded in the minutes, the Committee's appreciation of Mr. Nichol's services in connection with the patents list. Seconded by Mr. Chater. Carried.

The Secretary reported that N.S.W. Branch had written stating that they would be only too happy to make copies of their pricing service available to Mr. Chater and Mr. Nichol without charge. She had accordingly written thanking the N.S.W. Branch.

Mr. Hall said it would be of great assistance if future lists included wholesale prices.

Mr. Noble said the N.S.W. list contained wholesale and retail prices, and being produced every three months, had a lot to commend it. He thought next year it might be advisable to consult the N.S.W. Branch to see if this Branch could join with them in producing a list for both States.

New Members Elected.—Messrs. A. J. Shaw, Cairns; J. A. Wilson, Banyo; F. W. Drew, Baxter's Pharmacy, Stones Corner; G. G. Griffiths, Charters Towers; and R. H. Carnwell, Tugun.

Correspondence.—To the Attorney-General, re copying of pharmaceutical prescriptions. Pointing out that under the requirements of the State Poisons Regulations it is essential for pharmacists to record prescriptions containing Restricted and Dangerous Drugs, but the question had been raised as to whether it is mandatory for a pharmacist to record in the prescription book, simple compounded medicines for internal or external use. It was asked if there was any provision in any Act stipulating that prescriptions must be recorded in a prescription book.

The Secretary reported that to date no reply had been received.

To Zone Secretaries, thanking them for their assistance in making arrangements for the recent visit of Guild officials.

From Mr. K. G. Attiwill, stating that advice had been received that Sir Earle Page proposed to introduce at an early date a Bill providing for disciplinary committees of doctors and also to amend Section 19 of the present Pharmaceutical Benefits Act covering the appointment of pharmaceutical benefits committees. Mr. Lenehan said this was a means of protection for the personnel of committees which the Government had established in all States.

Mr. A. L. Hodgson, stating as the outcome of the recent district meeting held in Toowoomba it has been decided to establish a Darling Downs Zone of the Guild. Enquiring the procedure to be adopted to establish such a Zone.—Mr. Lenehan said he thought it would be fitting for a letter to be sent to Mr. Hodgson recommending the establishment of the Zone, ascertaining the office-bearers, etc.

Miscellaneous Workers' Union, advising alterations to the Chemists' Assistants' Award. Mr. Noble reported that the hearing was in the Industrial Court on September 24. He represented the Guild at the hearing. Alterations were items which had been passed by an Act of Parliament and written into many awards. They concerned payment for work done on Easter Saturday, annual leave, long service leave and sick leave. Concerning long service leave, all employees are now entitled to this. Mr. Noble said that chemists did not have many employees. It would impose a financial burden on a chemist if one of his staff was away for three months. After 20 years' service they had to be granted three months on full pay, if 15 years' service, a pro rata payment had to be made. Sick leave could now be accumulated up to five weeks. Under the award the employer is compelled to give one week's sick leave per year.

Mr. Noble said an application had now come to hand from the Shop Assistants' Union seeking increased wages. The Guild had filed an affidavit, and was awaiting advice as to the date of the hearing. He felt that the Guild should oppose this application because all employees were covered by basic wage increases. As customer traffic was down as far as pharmacy was concerned, all these wage increases were matters of some concern. Members of the Committee agreed with the views expressed by Mr. Noble, and he was asked to represent the Guild at the hearing of the application by the shop assistants.

Requests from Country Zones.—Mr. Lenehan said on his recent visit to northern Zones he noted the following:—

Cairns requested that longer notice be given when information is required for State or Federal purposes. Mr. Lenehan said this would be adhered to where possible.

Townsville requested that more articles on pricing appear in "Gileseal News." They said the articles which appeared some time ago had been very helpful. As a result of this request, Mr. Lenehan said he had asked Mr. Chater to kindly prepare some articles for publication, and he was now attending to this.

The members of the Mackay Zone complained concerning the prices in the over the counter list which had been circulated. They felt that some compromise should be made with competitive lines.

Mr. Huxham said that had been kept in mind in compiling the list.

Mr. Chater said as a Zone the members themselves should be able to agree on prices which would be of benefit to them locally where they had competition.

Another point raised by Mackay was the question of insurance on Pharmaceutical Benefit prescriptions. Mr. Lenehan said this question had been taken up previously through Federal Office and P.D.L. without result. However, he had approached Chas. A. Clarke & Sons, who were giving the matter consideration, and had advised that Lloyds of London were very interested. Their proposition was to insure prescriptions in the pharmacy and also in transit. Clarke & Sons advised that Lloyds had written to London for advice. Mr. Munro said the cheapest insurance he knew of was a fireproof safe.

Federal Council Meeting.—The agenda for the Federal Council Meeting was then discussed and consideration given to each item listed. The delegate was instructed regarding voting on each remit.

Mr. Chater moved that the second delegate from Queensland to the forthcoming Federal Council Meeting in Melbourne be Mr. Lenehan. Seconded by Mr. Phillips. Carried.

Medico-Pharmaceutical Liaison Meeting.—The President reported that the Society representatives on the Committee were desirous of meeting the doctors in November. Mr. Lenehan said he did not know what the Society representatives wished to discuss with the doctors, but he was wondering if the Guild Committee had any items in mind. If not, he asked that they

give this matter some thought so that it could be further discussed at next meeting.

Air Travel Insurance.—While discussing insurance of P.B.A. scripts with Chas. Clarke & Sons, Mr. Lenehan said he also raised the question of air travel insurance. He knew that the Federal Guild officials were covered by insurance, and he thought this was a matter that this Branch could give consideration to.

Some members said they always took out insurance when purchasing their air tickets, and they thought that the President's suggestion was a good one.

After discussion, Mr. Noble moved that at any time a member of this State Branch Committee makes an air journey on behalf of this Committee, he be insured. Seconded by Mr. Munro. Carried.

The meeting closed at 11.15 p.m.

AN UNSOLVED PROBLEM

Despite the number of years that castor oil has been a household remedy for constipation, no really effective means of disguising its obnoxious taste has yet been discovered. A century ago gin or whisky was a commonly-used flavouring agent. Spirits were cheap in those days. Then came the aromatic oils, such as cinnamon, clove or orange flavour. Recently the results of an investigation into the relative efficiencies of some imitation flavour concentrates, actually prepared from the basic ingredients, as masking agents for the initial and secondary tastes of castor oil have been published in the "Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association." Cacao syrup U.S.P. was found to be the best disguising agent for the initial taste of castor oil, followed closely by imitation coconut syrup, imitation wild cherry syrup, and the aromatics of aromatic castor oil N.F. IX, in that order.

The abilities of the syrups to disguise the taste and obnoxiousness of castor oil were not consistent, indicating that a vehicle which would disguise the initial taste would not necessarily be of any great value in masking its obnoxiousness. The addition of citric acid to the imitation fruit-flavoured syrups did not appear to enhance the disguising ability of these syrups. A majority of the subjects reported the official syrups—glycyrrhiza and aromatic eriodictyon—to be distasteful in themselves, but these groups gave relatively high obnoxious potentials. This, the authors suggest, may be due to a synergistic effect where one obnoxious taste tends to cover up or reduce another. The magnitude of the standard errors was consistently large throughout the investigation. Some factors which may have been responsible for these errors are: Castor oil does not have an acute taste; a majority of the subjects had a "phobia" for the taste of castor oil which would tend to produce inconsistent results; and none of the syrups used had a sufficient disguising ability for the oil. It may be an indication of the decline in popularity of flavoured castor oil, as well, perhaps, of the effectiveness of the agents chosen to mask its taste, that the current Codex omits the emulsion, mixture and aromatic oil of the B.P.C. 1934. Also relevant is the comment in the National Formulary 1952: "Adults rarely take castor oil, but their faith in its efficacy for their children's ailments is usually as great as it is misplaced."—"The Pharmaceutical Journal."

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